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# INDIA

# EDUCATION

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# INTRODUCTION

together
we can do
so much.

66

Alone we

can do

so little;

99

-Helen Keller

Dear Friends,

God My Silent Partner (GMSP) Foundation was set up in 2006 with a view to improving the lives and wellbeing of people who are vulnerable, marginalised or facing prejudice and discrimination in India and the UK.

Since its inception, GMSP has given £8 million to grassroots organisations that work tirelessly for a more humane society that upholds justice and safeguards dignity. However, for us, it is more than just about writing cheques, it is about creating the conditions that allow people to feel economically secure and emotionally supported.

Our upbringings played a big part in why we came to set up GMSP. We both grew up in Kenya, but in vastly different circumstances: Ramesh was one of thirteen children in a family of very humble means while Pratibha came from a comfortable middle class household. What we did have in common was a strong family base that offered love and support.

Together, we have been running a successful nursing home business in the UK for over three decades with Pratibha always encouraging us to donate to those in need.

After meeting his Guru Morari Bapu, Ramesh no longer felt content with simply amassing wealth. Guided by our spiritual teachings, we decided it was time to share our good fortune more systematically and contribute more to the common good.

In that spirit, we used our personal funds to set up GMSP. As our business grew, so did GMSP. Our plan is to keep giving and GMSP is the vehicle through which we will continue to serve the most vulnerable, regardless of their ethnicity, faith, background or beliefs.

Best regards,

Ramesh and Pratibha Sachdev



Dear Friends,

Our work at GMSP centres on groups who are marginalised, socially isolated or who face discrimination; those that are pushed to the edges of society because of their gender, disability, social and economic status or ethnic background.

# We want these groups to be seen, heard, believed and supported.

GMSP is a family foundation whose founders and directors come from a business background. We have combined our business learnings with our family's core value of respect for humanity to design our philanthropic model. Our approach has been to seek out dynamic organisations, civic leaders, activists and advocates who understand the challenges of the communities they serve better than we ever could.

We champion our partners not only by investing in them, but by introducing them to our networks, exchanging skills and experience with them and providing them with legal and social media support.

As well as backing their work we also focus on their personal wellbeing, nurturing them to sustain their efforts and doing everything in our power to propel them forward.

When we fund, we think strategically about what role we can play in the vast philanthropic landscape. We do not want to fund in isolation. We look at what other support organisations are receiving and step in to fill the gaps.

# In the last five years, we have moved towards providing unrestricted funding to give our partners the power to be more agile, responsive and relevant in the face of the evolving needs of their communities.

In India, you will see us supporting organisations that provide affordable health services, and those that provide legal assistance to vulnerable women. We have partnered with groups that work on special education needs, and others that address women's safety. In the UK, we have worked with organisations that tackle violence against women among Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities and those that work to eliminate classroom hunger.

What all these organisations have in common is that they are run by trailblazing leaders who have used their foresight, creativity and determination to change some long-held realities in their communities. And while they work across a variety of themes, many of them focus on strengthening the status of women and girls, which we see as a stepping-stone to empowering whole communities. No social transformation is truly possible if half the community is overlooked.

Our success as a foundation is largely due to the fact that we really listen to our partners. We pride ourselves on having built relationships of mutual trust with the leaders and activists of the organisations we support. We invest long-term, we pivot in response to their needs and we are always learning.

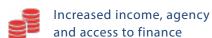
I hope you enjoy reading about the work of our partners on the pages that follow, and that you are moved to join us in supporting them.

Best wishes,

Sonal Sachdev Patel

# THEORY CHANGE





Reduction in prevalence of gender-based violence

Perception change

Increased health and wellbeing





To fundamentally improve the rights and lives of vulnerable communities

### WHAT DO **WE BELIEVE?**



All human beings should be treated equally

Individuals

own path

have the right

to choose their

Collaboration:

we can't solve

problems on

our own



We have a responsibility to support humankind



Respecting one another is a key element of creating a peaceful world



Grassroots organisations are drivers of change



MINIMIN



Promoting rights-based education



Advancing economic participation and agency



Enhancing rights and access to justice to justice



o Improving health





We support innovative solutions driven by communities themselves communities themselves



We invest with money, time, skills, networks



We invest in strong leaders who listen to their communities and have a track record of success



mumummummum .



Women and girls transform communities



Investing in strong NGO leaders creates change



Boys are part of the solution



Women's economic empowerment is critical to a woman's value



Ending violence requires a holistic approach



Grassroots organisations embedded in their communities can create effective solutions



# Funding

Our funding strategy is geared towards enabling organisations to reach their full potential by providing unrestricted and flexible funds.

# Access to our network

We connect and encourage our partners to work with similar organisations and create opportunities to meet other funders.

# **Training Support**

We provide organisations with the tools required to train their team.

# Legal Support

We provide a free legal health check for all of our partners and other legal support they might need.

# Self-Care & Wellbeing

We understand the importance of investing in leaders' physical and mental wellbeing.

# Social Media & Communications

We set aside funds to ensure each organisation can communicate its mission and stories for maximum reach.

# WHO WE WORK WITH

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in common is that they are run by trailblazing leaders who have used their foresight, creativity and determination to change some long-held realities in their communities.

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- Sonal Sachdev Patel



# OUR IMPACT

Our close relationship with partners has allowed us to understand, and see firsthand, the depth of impact that their work has on those they serve. And while we understand the limitations of assessing real social change through numbers, the results our partners have shared help to provide an overview of what changes have taken place with our support.



Through the work of our partners,

4.8 million adults and children have been supported

£8 million
in grants to
India
and
the UK

# SUSTAINABLE GALS

By aligning with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, we seek to make a positive contribution towards solving some of the world's most pressing challenges.





16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

66

Be the change that you

INDIA

wish to see in the world.

99

- Mahatma Gandhi





A R A M addresses the sensitive subject of child sexual abuse in India, providing prevention, intervention and psychotherapeutic services to children and adults while advocating for systemic change to end child harm. GMSP began by funding Arpan's Personal Safety Education programme in Mumbai and has since extended its support to include Arpan's core costs in achieving its mission.



200,000 children and adults impacted through prevention, healing and training programmes



Over 880,000 children and adults reached through partnerships

### CHALLENGE

More than half of India's children have faced some form of sexual abuse. Of those, 21 per cent were estimated to have suffered severe sexual abuse.

Despite its pervasiveness, child sexual abuse remains highly under-reported, hidden beneath a cultural blanket of shame associated with sexuality. Child sexual abuse is neither widely understood nor often examined. When children are not taught about boundaries, they may not be able to identify the difference between what is or is not appropriate contact.

While some physical scars may heal, the psychological effects of abuse seep well into adulthood and manifest in a range of problems from depression, anxiety, isolation and even suicide.

# ACTION

Arpan's flagship programme is delivered in schools and provides children with core life skills including decision-making, problemsolving, resilience and empathy while raising awareness on interpersonal relationships and de-stigmatisation to recognise unsafe situations and seek help.

The programme works with parents and teachers to create a safe environment for children. Caregivers are taught to respond to disclosures sensitively and effectively. Arpan also provides long-term psychotherapeutic support to child and adult survivors of sexual abuse through its Mental Health Services programme.

Through its Training and Capacity Building initiative, Arpan has developed tailored resources for stakeholders and conducts training to ensure that child protection mechanisms are incorporated in their environments. Arpan's advocacy work aims to bring about systemic change to combat the issue of child sexual abuse.



SOL'S ARC works towards educational equity in India by building inclusive learning content accessible to children with learning disabilities and special needs. GMSP recognises the importance not only of increasing the education and skill levels of those with special needs, but also changing the perception of society towards them. Thus, GMSP supports the development of a special needs curriculum with the aim of bringing special needs children into mainstream society. In addition, GMSP supports their vocational programme that works to help teenagers and young adults secure a job.



100,000 children reached in two Indian states by 2018



200,000 children supported through partnerships

### CHALLENGE

Early life experiences cast a long shadow.

Poverty, disability and poor education play a huge role in determining a child's life chances. In India, those with special needs face a particularly difficult challenge in accessing quality education because mainstream schools do not have a standardised learning curriculum to address individual educational needs.

At least 50 per cent of India's children have learning lags. They include those with developmental disabilities, but also children from disadvantaged backgrounds and from marginalised communities.

Experts agree that children who struggle with learning at the early stages rarely catch up on their own. Special education interventions in India are expensive and difficult to access.

In some parts of India, particularly in rural areas, girls' education is low on a family's list of priorities due to economic circumstances or cultural norms. Girls with disabilities face double the disadvantage.

# ACTION

In Mumbai, Sol's ARC runs a school that delivers standardised learning material and a structured life skills programme for children with special educational needs. The adjoining Therapy Centre creates customised therapy programmes to support children's physical, cognitive and social development.

Through its partnership initiative, Special Edge, Sol's ARC trains teachers to identify learning lags, understand their reasons through a manual and app-based screening tool, and apply learning methodology in the classroom. Sol's ARC has partnered with government, schools and other NGOs to scale the programme.

Sol's ARC's Pathways programme is a three-year vocational degree for young adults with special needs, providing work experience and employment opportunities in the food, information technology, education and retail industries.



**BLIND SCHOOL** gives children with visual impairments the best start in life by providing a nurturing learning environment. GMSP has supported the Blind School in Gandhinagar with the construction of a new building that gives children access to state of the art education and boarding facilities.



Over 400 students graduated from the school



55 children hosted at any one time at the school

### CHALLENGE

In many remote Indian villages, children born with visual impairments and into poverty face hurdle after hurdle in acquiring the skills and accessing the opportunities that would help them live full lives with dignity. Society often does not know how to deal with blindness, resulting in maltreatment or negligence. In some cases, parents believe that their children were born blind because of a religious curse, and end up abandoning them to fend for themselves.

In the more marginalised communities, families have little information and few resources, if any, to help them raise a child with visual impairments. The economic hardships faced by so many mean that children with disabilities are often relegated to the bottom of the priority list when it comes to education. As a result, these children end up dependent for the rest of their lives, unable to fulfil daily tasks on their own, let alone gain an education or employment.

# ACTION

Children at the Blind School are taught life skills, sports, computers and music within a nurturing learning environment where personal growth is a major focus.

The school provides education from grade 1 to grade 10 and also offers accommodation for those students who will undertake further education nearby.

The facility also extends support to elderly blind people in surrounding areas. The school has a computer and a modern technology braille printer.

A committed team of teaching and support staff oversees the children's education and wellbeing. Students of the school have won prizes and awards at the Gujarat state level in music and sports, a testament to the skills and confidence they have acquired in their time there.





Given the diversity and complexity of problems faced by marginalised communities, CORO believes that real change comes from within communities.

CORO is a grassroots organisation led and shaped by people from traditionally marginalised communities. It works for equality and justice through programmes on community leadership, gender equality and enhancing women's decision-making power. GMSP supports CORO's multilevel interventions and the creation of community support systems to combat domestic violence in over 4,000 households.



1,300 grassroots leaders trained, impacting 2.5 million people



400,000 students reached through gender sensitisation programme

### CHALLENGE

Ashalata's husband left one day and never came back. Overnight, she found herself with two children, no income and no property of her own. Now a single mother, she was shunned by her community, with nowhere to turn. It was not until she met other women in similar situations that she garnered the strength to start a new life for herself and her children. Today, she is a community organiser for single women in her region.

Social isolation and marginalisation affects millions of people in India. They can be excluded because of gender, disability, social and economic status or ethnic background. They are pushed to the edges of society with no access to basic services and no support system.

Because of widespread gender inequality, women from marginalised communities face twice the discrimination. With little social or legal protection, they are vulnerable to violence and exploitation.

# ACTION

CORO delivers yearlong mentorship programmes that develop the leadership skills of community members and equip them with the tools to solve the problems specific to their communities.

CORO delivers gender education to students in schools across Maharashtra. In collaboration with local government and UNICEF, CORO provides training and monitoring of this programme in schools and conducts awareness campaigns in villages on gender equality and girls' education.

The women's empowerment programme works with households in Mumbai slums to break taboos and facilitate dialogue around domestic violence and inequitable social norms. The programme offers training, counselling and legal aid services and organises awareness-building campaigns. It also supports women in forming self-help groups to generate income for themselves.



# JAYANA VOLUNTEER HOME provides accommodation to volunteers who travel from within India and abroad to work at the Gandhi Ashram. GMSP funded the renovation of the volunteer home.



120 volunteers served per year



Volunteers are provided accommodation for up to one year in return for their services

### CHALLENGE

The Jayana Volunteer home is steeped in history. It is housed in the Gandhi Ashram—one of the main centres from which Gandhi launched the struggle for freedom and self-determination in India that inspired civil rights movements around the world. Today, the Ashram serves as a national homage to cultural heritage and community work.

The Jayana Volunteer Home hosts volunteers from across India and the world who come to offer their time and services at the Gandhi Ashram. The volunteers spend between three and 12 months working on a variety of projects including farming, health, sanitation and the arts.

Over the years, the building began to deteriorate and reached such a state of disrepair that volunteers had to be turned away due to the lack of safe accommodation.

# ACTION

Essential renovations have brought the Jayana Volunteer Home back to life. Work was undertaken on the building to repair the roof and sewage system. Paint and plaster work was done and new furniture was brought in. The restoration work has allowed Jayana Volunteer Home to provide safe and comfortable accommodation to the volunteers, who are now able to stay at the Ashram for longer periods and better serve the community.

These volunteers are critical to the work of the Gandhi Ashram and its affiliated organisations that work to improve the lives of underprivileged communities throughout Ahmadabad, Gujarat.

Moreover, working at the Ashram is life-changing for the volunteers themselves. By working with local communities and with fellow volunteers in close proximity over extended periods of time, many say their world outlook was reshaped by the experience.

Mann Deshi was initially set up as a small cooperative bank to help women in Mhaswad control and grow their finances by giving them access to savings and credit. Today, Mann Deshi Bank boasts over **90,000** clients who are mainly wage labourers, small farmers, street vendors, shopkeepers and women who run their own small businesses.

MANN DES HI seeks to empower rural women by arming them with business skills and giving them access to savings opportunities. GMSP's grant supports Mann Deshi's Business School on Wheels for women living in and around the Navi Mumbai area.



95,000 women set up bank accounts



450,000 women attended 20 business schools



150,000 people reached through Community Radio Programme

# CHALLENGE

In 1996, Kantabai, a welder who lived on the street in Mhaswad in the western Indian state of Maharashtra, needed a safe space to keep her daily savings out of the reach of her alcoholic husband. But every bank she approached refused her service. In India, there are countless Kantabais: women, who through personal circumstance or cultural restriction, have no access to institutional banking services and no opportunities for personal development.

In rural Maharashtra, women juggle multiple roles: they manage household responsibilities and childcare but are also expected to help out on the family farm or work as day labourers. Many run small businesses out of their homes or at weekly markets. Despite their active participation in the workforce, these women have little control over their earnings and are stuck within the confines of socially prescribed expectations. With no financial literacy or business skills, they are unable to realise their full potential.

# ACTION

Mann Deshi set up a mobile banking unit for women who could not reach the bank in Mhaswad.

The success of the bank motivated women to want to learn more. In response, Mann Deshi launched a business school to deliver courses on financial literacy, agri-business training and enterprise development. Later, the Business School on Wheels was set up to provide courses in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Karnataka. Mann Deshi then oversaw the establishment of the first chamber of commerce for micro-entrepreneurs, helping women take their businesses to the next level.

Today, Mann Deshi also serves and empowers communities through various projects including a community radio, a water conservation programme, a bicycle scheme for young girls, a sports initiative for young athletes and a farm to market initiative that helps small farmers access markets for their goods.



RUDRA CENTRE is a space that enables the women of Ahmedabad's slum communities to gain the skills and support needed for their personal and economic growth. GMSP supports the Rudra Centre in its aim to give women economic stability and build a safety net for their families.



15,000 girls and women are now economically independent



1,500 girls attended training such as computing, menstrual hygiene and yoga in one year

# CHALLENGE

For so many women in India's slum communities, marriage and childbearing brings personal growth to a grinding halt. To support their families, many are engaged in work in the informal sector but are often at the bottom of the earnings ladder. Others lack resources and access to a basic livelihood.

As women struggle to balance work and domestic tasks, life can become a difficult and monotonous cycle of physical labour and emotional pressure, putting a heavy toll on their bodies and minds. In addition to a demanding daily schedule, poverty and inadequate healthcare leaves many women with a host of chronic conditions, including fatigue, heart disease and poor eyesight. With so much focus on daily survival, women have no money, time or space for much needed rest and leisure activities.

# **ACTION**

Rudra Centre works to provide women with skills that will lead them to economic freedom and to become active participants in their communities.

The centre offers training programmes in embroidery, quilting and entrepreneurship while fostering friendships and a community spirit.

Through a series of training camps, women are taught life skills and given training in personal development, self-esteem and healthy relationships. Other camps include sessions on nutrition, massage technique, wellness and personal hygiene with the aim of decreasing chronic conditions and helping with physical ailments due to poor posture and lack of healthy exercise.

In addition, Rudra Centre organises annual trips, picnics and leisure activities throughout the year and provides a market for the women's artisan products.

# ENEANCING RIGHTS & ACCESS TO



Neelam was a child bride.

She had seen girls in her community sold for marriage aged as young as eight.

Like most of the women in her village, she thought this was just part of normal life.

AANGAN is a community-based organisation that works with parents, schools and the government to combat all forms of child abuse including early marriage, trafficking, child labour and exploitation. GMSP funds Aangan's peer network programme for girls across two urban slums in Mumbai, helping to identify and mentor girls who are at risk of, or suffer from, abuse and link them to child protection officials. GMSP supported Aangan's child safety mobile app to collect local data from 19,000 families with 40,000 children.



1,100 community women volunteers trained to run 86 community child safety groups



157,300 children reached from the most marginalised communities

# CHALLENGE

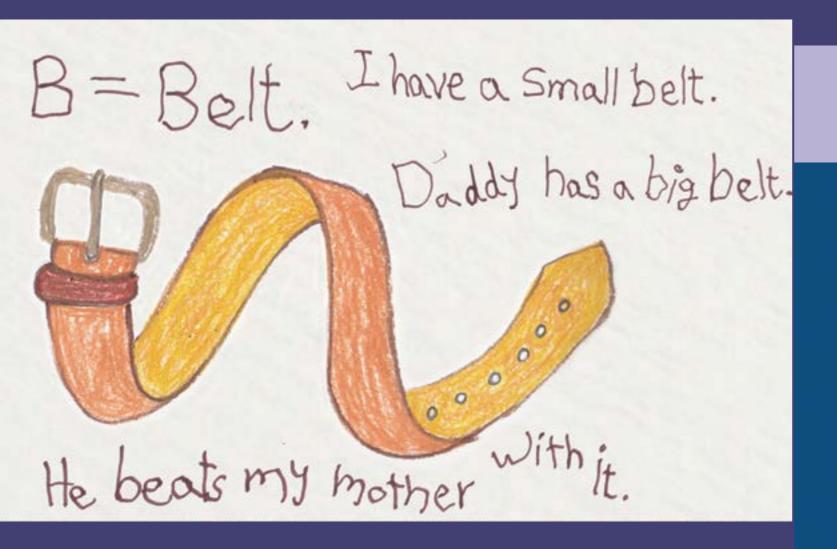
Despite a law banning underage marriage, 27 per cent of girls in India are married before they turn 18. Poverty is a major driver, as marriage transfers the economic burden from the father to the husband. Poverty has also pushed children into the labour force. Families who fall into debt send their children to work to subsidise their income. According to UN figures, 10.1 million children aged between five and 14 are engaged in work.

With a lack of adequate child protection mechanisms, children continue to face abuse and exploitation. The situation is exacerbated by social norms, traditions and the specific practices of states and regions. Because there is little local information available on child vulnerability, policy makers rely on aggregated national data to formulate child protection policy. With more specific local data informing policy, child protection systems can become more targeted and effective.

# ACTION

Aangan's approach is to train women volunteers in its PACT (Parents and Children Against Trafficking and Harm) child protection curriculum, providing them with the knowledge and technical skills to mobilise community leaders, families and government officials to work together to keep children safe. Because the drivers of child harm are specific to each area, Aangan has trained PACT women to gather data from each area using a live map tool, in order to share information and insights with local officials. This, in turn, can help officials better design relevant child protections systems.

PACT-trained women also help create peer networks for girls and boys, to discuss the issues that put them at risk of harm. Adolescents learn about their rights and get to talk about their fears and ambitions in a safe environment. The sessions provide the adolescents with the tools and skills to participate in community life safely.



INIAGELES is an all-women organisation of lawyers and activists that seeks to educate and empower women as to their legal rights. By offering legal representation, training and advocacy, it addresses the barriers faced by women in accessing justice. GMSP is working with Majlis to train the judiciary, the police, medical officers, child protection committees and other state agencies to respond effectively to victims of domestic and sexual violence.



50,000 women and child survivors of violence supported



25,000 private, public and community stakeholders trained on legal rights and procedures

# CHALLENGE

For many victims of violence, seeking legal justice can be a scary and difficult prospect. There is the fear of not being believed, the fear of a lengthy and expensive process and the fear of being humiliated by having your private life and character openly scrutinised. Deeply rooted gender bias and discrimination has led to women's claims often being viewed with suspicion, if not outright hostility, from the community, police and judiciary.

In a landmark case that triggered the antirape movement in 1980, judges acquitted policemen in the gang rape of a 16-year-old who was poor, illiterate and belonged to a marginalised community. The ruling was based on the grounds that the lack of marks or injuries on her body indicated consent. Details from her private life were also used to discredit her, thus removing the focus entirely from the violent act that had taken place.

# ACTION

Majlis was established in response to a pressing need for lawyers who could combat entrenched gender bias in the judicial system. Majlis lawyers and activists offer legal representation to women in need across the socio-economic spectrum through litigation, mediation and settlements.

Majlis works to create awareness in the community and among state agencies about rights and best practices. It provides crucial training to judges which it hopes will have a ripple effect on the whole judicial system.

The training explore the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder in cases of domestic and sexual violence. The training provides practical examples and case studies, best practices, standard operating procedures and an attempt to dismantle stereotypes and prejudices.



IPROBONO harnesses technology to mobilise a global network of lawyers and students to provide legal aid to those most in need. Through its work, it seeks to amplify the voices of civil society and defend human rights. GMSP supports iProbono's outreach work in Mumbai and Gujarat, which engages with local organisations on capacity building and advocacy projects.



1.4 million people benefited from legal assistance in 36 countries



A network of 60,000 volunteers

# CHALLENGE

Every day, millions of disadvantaged individuals struggle to gain access to the justice system. While legal aid is available to all in theory, the reality is that high-quality, affordable legal services that can secure a strong chance at a fair trial are rare.

Litigation is expensive and an overburdened system means cases can languish in courts for years, sometimes decades. The system feels all but closed to the most vulnerable. There are communities fighting eviction notices, women in the informal sector struggling to access government benefits and child victims of sexual violence whose families are seeking justice and protection. There are many more people who need help understanding their rights and navigating the complex justice system. However, just the process of finding a lawyer means taking time off work and losing income.

Civil society organisations that are willing to take on cases are often under-resourced and over-stretched. Pro bono work, where legal firms take on a case for free regardless of its outcome, is not widespread in India.

# ACTION

iProbono harnesses technology and connectivity to deliver legal aid to those who need it most. Using a digital platform and personal interaction, iProbono connects lawyers and legal students with individuals and organisations that need free legal advice and representation.

iProbono works around three main axes: to strengthen civil society, to represent people in need and to advocate for equal justice.

Through its network of over 60,000 volunteers, iProbono provides civil society organisations with free comprehensive legal support. It litigates for those denied justice, pursuing strategic casework that leads to legal reform. It also advocates on their behalf by mobilising the combined power of civil society and the private sector to highlight injustice, entrench human rights and end discrimination.





Somnath attends Dingucha Primary School and says his favourite subject is maths. He hopes to become an engineer one day because he loves to construct things and finds "everything so fascinating in science".

Somnath says that Akshaya Patra's meals have given him and his younger sister "the energy to walk to school every morning as it's quite far".

# THE AKSHAYA PATRA FOUNDATION INDIA works

o tackle classroom hunger, child malnutrition and educational access by making and delivering daily meals to schools across India. GMSP supported Akshaya Patra to provide school meals to 550 children for one year in three rural villages.







42 manufacturing kitchens in operation in 12 Indian states

# CHALLENGE

Malnutrition accounts for 50 per cent of child deaths in India. Every day, over eight million children are forced into work to earn enough money to feed themselves and to supplement the family income. This means they are at work when they should be in school.

In addition, gender bias means that if parents had to choose, they would most likely send their boys to school. Girls who do go to school are more likely to drop out earlier.

Food insecurity directly affects school attendance rates and with little or no education, children have limited life prospects.

# ACTION

Akshaya Patra provides fresh nutritious daily meals to children in schools across India. Leveraging technology to expand its reach, Akshaya Patra's state of the art kitchens serve wholesome food to over 1.8 million children across 12 states in India.

In partnership with the government, and with support from corporate entities and individual donors, Akshaya Patra is working to fulfil its mission that "no child should be deprived of education due to hunger".

The meals were found to encourage parents to send their children to school. Not only do the meals tackle hunger, but they also help decrease child labour rates, empower boys and girls to remain in school and help children's cognitive and physical development.



In India, a mother dies in childbirth every eight minutes and a child under five dies every 15 seconds.

ARMINAN works with underprivileged communities in India to provide medical care to women, babies and children under five, in a bid to reduce preventable cases of maternal death and child mortality. GMSP supports the mMitra programme with the aim of reducing maternal and infant mortality and morbidity.



2 million mothers and their children impacted in 9 states in India



370,000 frontline health workers engaged across 13 states

# CHALLENGE

When Gargi was born prematurely, she was so underweight that her mother Nisha was too scared to touch her. A year later, thanks to medical advice and support, Nisha has the confidence to care for her daughter and Gargi is thriving. Others, however, have not been so lucky. With no access to healthcare or medical advice, countless women suffer complications during and after their pregnancy.

Political, socio-economic and medical factors all contribute to the lack of adequate healthcare. Around 70 per cent of those faced with an emergency situation have no way of getting to a hospital. Less than 30 per cent of community health centres have an obstetrician and only 10 per cent have an anaesthesiologist, according to government data.

Women and their families are not equipped with the right information to protect them from nutritional deficiencies, and help them spot the early warning signs of trouble. 14 per cent of children die before age five; while 36 per cent are underweight and 38 per cent are stunted.

# ACTION

Armman combines evidence-based research and technology with a community needs assessment approach to design programmes that can be scaled. Through its mMitra programme, Armman provides women with tailored information on pregnancy and infancy through mobile voice calls in the local dialect. The high usage of mobile phones makes this an effective way to get messages across.

Armman's Mother and Child High Risk Factor Tracking uses a mobile-based tool to support the work of community midwives to ensure that mothers with high risk factors are identified and referred to the right services. SMS alerts are sent to women, local medical officers and village health workers to ensure seamless coordination between those involved in the care of mothers and their babies.

Through its Antenatal and Infancy Care programme, Armman trains women to become health entrepreneurs, able to deliver homebased care during the antenatal and infancy periods.

# Every day, Sanitation First provides sanitation for over 40,000 Indian schoolchildren.

Sanitation is the single most cost-effective public health intervention to reduce child mortality.

World Bank, 2006



SANITATION FIRST provides basic sanitation to those living in acute poverty as a stepping stone towards better health, safety, social justice and dignity. GMSP has supported Sanitation First's work in Gujarat. Vankvad village now has 99 family Ecosan toilets with washrooms and a working well, water pump and storage unit. GMSP has also funded Ecosan toilets in a Mumbai school. GMSP supports the associated core costs of all project work.



5,000 toilets built



56,000 people using Sanitation First toilets every day



13,530 tonnes of compost produced

### CHALLENGE

Millions in India have no access to a toilet and are forced to relieve themselves in the open. This creates a massive public health risk and makes communities vulnerable to serious disease from contaminated water. Those who fall ill often have no access to affordable healthcare and must take time off work to get treated. Medicines can be expensive.

The lack of sanitation has a ripple effect on personal safety and education. In order to avoid the shame of defecating in public, women are often forced to step out after dark to ensure a degree of privacy, which leaves them vulnerable to attack. In schools, many toilets are unfit for use. Some schools have no toilets at all. Girls in particular fear unsafe toilets and avoid school when they are menstruating, with many dropping out altogether.

# ACTION

Sanitation First provides impoverished communities with safe, clean toilets that convert waste into compost, helping communities look after their health and preserve their dignity.

Sanitation First's toilet units do not rely on sewer infrastructures and can reach even the most remote and overcrowded communities. The environmentally-friendly toilets are specifically designed for urban and rural areas.

Sanitation First recognises that the provision of toilets is not enough to change age-old traditions and thus invests heavily in training and community support.

# ECOLOGICAL uses minimal water, produces

# SANTTATION (Ecosan) zero waste and offers multiple benefits



### **URINE DIVERTING DRY TOILETS**

The Ecosan toilets work to convert waste into compost and fertiliser. Ecosan toilets are urine diverting dry toilets, meaning they are cleverly designed to separate solids and liquids.



# **CONVERTING WASTE**

Urine is collected by Sanitation First's trained experts and used as liquid fertiliser while solid waste is composted in a chamber beneath the toilet and can be used in agriculture.



600 million Indians will be left without water by 2030, according to the Indian government.



### **NO WASTE - REUSE AND RECYCLE**

Ecosan is not about disposal; it's about recycling and transforming. It supports the idea of a circular economy. Ecological sanitation is a closed loop circuit; nutrients are reused and recycled, rather than being wasted.





# PROMOTES SAFETY

Creating a safer environment for women and girls by minimising risk of attacks.



# BOOSTS GIRLS' EDUCATION

Once a toilet is introduced into a school, Sanitation First sees a 15 per cent increase in girls' attendance.



# IMPROVES HEALTH

due to reduced risk of disease such as diarrhoea.



# INCREASES FAMILY INCOME

due to less time off sick and and reduced expenditure on medication. Swasth is able to offer healthcare at 50 per cent of the market rate.

# SWASTH FOUNDATION is a not-for-profit social enterprise

aimed at redressing health inequity among India's urban population by extending affordable, safe and accountable healthcare to low-income areas. GMSP partnered with Swasth to set up and operate a health centre within an urban slum in Mumbai and supports Swasth with its capacity building.



24 clinics in Mumbai and 4 clinics in Ahmedabad



850,000 patients seen



70 per cent of Swasth's workforce is women

### CHALLENGE

Safe drinking water and adequate sanitation are essential to good health. But for India's urban poorest, a lack of both these can leave communities very vulnerable, with a high prevalence of water-borne and insect-borne diseases in the more crowded spaces. Poverty and lack of access to good healthcare have also led to many nutritional deficiencies among adults and children alike.

Many conditions are preventable, some are treatable. However, people have to choose between an under-resourced government health service, and private healthcare that can be dangerously unregulated or too expensive.

The economic consequences of illness, particularly unpredictable illnesses or "health shocks", can have a devastating impact on families that pay out-of-pocket. For so many, it only takes one unexpected medical bill to push them into poverty and debt. Annually, 60 million Indians go below the poverty line due to a health shock.

# ACTION

Swasth Foundation runs a network of medical centres that provide services in family medicine and dentistry, thanks to a low-cost drug supply chain, in-house pathology labs and the training of staff hired from the community.

Electronic technology is used keep patient records. To maintain transparency and quality control, doctors are assessed based on feedback by patients on the quality of their service.

Swasth is also working to develop a wellness programme that synergises the knowledge of the West with the wisdom of the East and provides coaching, counselling, diet and nutrition advice to prevent the onset of chronic illness and enhance quality of life.



# SHREE VIDHYAGURU FOUNDATION offers

free, high quality, modern healthcare services to the rural community of Savarkundla in Gujarat. GMSF supported Shree Vidhyaguru Foundation by funding treatments, medicines and staff costs to keep the running of the hospital free at the point of use for all who need it.



1,000 patients seen every day



10 babies delivered every day

# CHALLENGE

Savarkundla is a small rural area in Gujarat, home to around 80,000 people, many of whom live in poverty and cannot afford basic healthcare. Once a centre of production of weighing scales, its residents now rely mainly on farming for their subsistence. But the area suffers from severe droughts, which places a further burden on farmers.

Existing healthcare providers are seen by residents as exploitative, charging fees that are far above the means of most residents.

Many are forced to forego treatment, unable to pay for medication. Maternity services are found to be over performing caesarean sections in order to charge more money. Whatever affordable medical services are available are of the most basic level.

# ACTION

Shree Vidhyaguru Foundation was set up by a group of people from Savarkundla and nearby towns who wanted to give back to their community by helping those less fortunate.

The foundation built a hospital that offers services that are completely free of charge. The hospital has a fully functioning surgical ward and provides patients with dialysis, physiotherapy, pathology, general surgery, gynaecology and dentistry. It also offers holistic care in the form of yoga, Ayurveda, naturopathy and homeopathy.

The hospital is now expanding to include an orthopaedic department as well as a cancer research centre.

UK

# All human beings are born free

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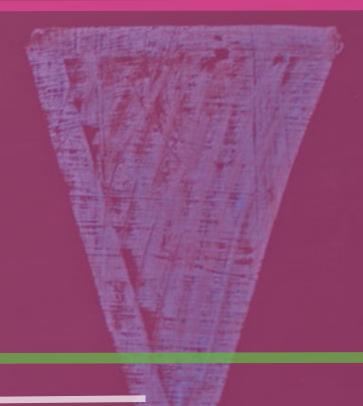
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- United Nations

# EDUCATION





INDIA'S DAUGHTER is the story of the brutal gang rape and murder of an inspiring young woman in Delhi in December 2012. The rape and death of the 23-year-old medical student sparked unprecedented protests throughout India. Interwoven into the storyline are the lives, values and mindsets of the rapists and the courage with which the parents of Jyoti Singh remember their daughter.

GMSP supported the distribution and outreach of the film.

1 in 3 women globally is beaten, forced into sex or abused.

1 in 5 will become a victim of rape or attempted rape.

Since the rape of Jyoti Singh, reporting has increased by 27 per cent.

A rape occurs every 18 minutes in Delhi, known as 'the rape capital of the world', and every 20 minutes in India as a whole. The important point to bear in mind is that this is by no means an India-centric problem. In the UK, for example, 33 per cent of young girls between the ages of 13 and 17 have experienced sexual violence.

India's Daughter exposes a skewed patriarchal society in which an institutionalised view of women as second-class citizens leads to such heinous crimes against them.

The insights gleaned from this film have led to the conclusion that the only way to stop violence against women is through early years education. Thus, an NGO, Think Equal, which incorporates a curriculum of social and emotional learning was born.





"No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love." THINK I QUAL works to eliminate the root causes of discrimination and violence by delivering a curriculum in social and emotional learning that gives children a crucial foundation for positive outcomes in life. GMSP has worked with Think Equal to construct a programme in social and emotional learning for early years education and support the core costs of the growing organisation.





Taught in over 500 schools across 14 countries

# CHALLENGE

Emotions matter. They influence how we behave and how we interact with others. Study after study has shown that emotional intelligence—the ability to identify, understand and regulate emotions—can help protect people from aggression, substance abuse, suicide, depression and mental health issues. In schools, bullying, aggression or online abuse can be traced to the lack of emotional intelligence skills.

As children grow, the discrimination and negative attitudes they observe around them become entrenched and normalised. They can start to develop discriminatory attitudes or become influenced or intimidated by peer group behaviour.

### ACTION

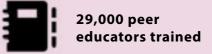
Think Equal has gathered a group of expert advisors from across the world, including experts in education, human rights, gender, psychology and neuroscience, to develop a programme for a new preschool subject in social and emotional learning. This programme works to ensure that children acquire the knowledge, attitudes and skills of self-worth, emotional literacy, critical thinking, problem-solving, empathy, conflict resolution and gender equality amongst others.

Think Equal is working towards a systemic change in education to end the discriminatory mindset and cycle of violence across the world.



TINDE works to prevent domestic abuse and sexual violence among young people by using theatre and art to promote healthy relationships. GMSP contributed to Tender's work in engaging young people in violence prevention workshops in London schools.







780 schools and youth centres partnered with

# CHALLENGE

Domestic abuse doesn't just affect adults. Young people aged 16 to 24 are at the greatest risk of experiencing domestic abuse, according to leading UK charities. Abuse can take the form of sexual violence, physical abuse, verbal intimidation, misogyny, coercive control or emotional abuse. Often it comes from abusers who are themselves teenagers or in their early twenties.

Younger people have a more difficult time than adults recognising the signs of an abusive relationship before it turns violent. In the UK, one in five teenagers has been physically abused by a partner. Teaching children and teenagers about boundaries, feelings and attitudes can help curb the problem and even save lives.

# ACTION

Tender uses arts to help young people understand the components of healthy and unhealthy relationships. It works with them to identify the early signs of abuse in order to recognise, avoid or escape abusive relationships before they get worse. Experts agree that arts education can be a powerful tool in raising self-esteem and boosting self-confidence.

Tender engages children and young people in drama workshops where they can develop their understanding of domestic violence. By using theatre and arts, participants are able to discuss the topic of violence and challenge attitudes of tolerance to abuse within a safe environment. Role-playing can help participants experience what it feels like to be in someone else's shoes, which, in turn, helps them become more empathetic.

# ENFLANCING ENGLISS ACCESS TO JUSTICE

# RISE TOGETHER

is a collaborative crowdfunding campaign by five leading Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) organisations working on tackling violence against women across the UK. GMSP, supported by I.G. Advisors and Social Misfits Media, has been working closely with these organisations in supporting the development of their long-term fundraising and communications skills, whilst also directly funding each organisation.



BAME women confronting violence face additional hurdles in seeking help and protection. Around 40 per cent of BAME women live in poverty. Most have no disposable income of their own. Some lack education while others may have an unclear immigration status. Some cannot communicate with those outside their community because they do not speak English. Cultural constraints or family-enforced isolation leaves many women cut off from mainstream society. All these factors and more mean that BAME women are not adequately equipped to escape abusive situations.

Those who do seek help from police or protective agencies are often met with a lack of understanding of their cultural contexts. Others have experienced racist attitudes. In addition, since 2012, 50 per cent of BAME shelters have had to close down due to cuts in government funding. With nowhere to turn, BAME women who are struggling with violence and abuse are finding themselves increasingly isolated and more vulnerable to harm.

# Since 2012, **50% of shelters** in the UK for BAME women have been **forced to close** due to **government funding cuts.**

Supporting BAME women across the country calls for a collaborative approach, where organisations providing services to BAME women work together to raise awareness and help one another.

In this spirit, five BAME organisations in the UK have joined forces to combat violence against women through the #RiseTogether crowdfunding campaign. The organisations are Apna Haq, Ashiana Network, IMECE Women's Centre, Latin American Women's Aid (LAWA) and the Latin American Women's Rights Service LAWRS.

These organisations work tirelessly to ensure that women who face discrimination and marginalisation receive support that is relevant and efficient, that understands their culture, language and needs. Through the funds raised by #RiseTogether, the organisations plan to build their own teams and capacity so they can help more women across the country.



ASHIANA IN IT WORK provides specialist counselling, advice, advocacy and refuge services for vulnerable women from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities in the UK. It helps women who have suffered violence rebuild their lives and provides those at risk of harm with support and information to help them make informed decisions about their



future.

500 women and girls supported through refuge, advice and counselling services



138 women left abusive family homes



18 cases of forced marriage were prevented

# CHALLENGE

In many BAME communities in the UK, custom dictates that family problems should be kept inside the home. Domestic violence, abuse, suicide, anxiety and depression are often taboo subjects. The stigma of talking about these issues openly only fuels the silence.

BAME communities face a multitude of pressures including racism, discrimination and language barriers. Many BAME women are brought up to believe that privacy and a family's reputation are more important than an individual's troubles. As a result, they are often hesitant to reach out for professional assistance. Those who do seek help often have trouble finding counsellors or therapists who understand the cultural dimensions of their particular concerns and pressures.

# ACTION

Ashiana Network provides refuge services for South Asian, Turkish and Iranian women who have experienced a range of issues including domestic violence, sexual violence, forced marriage and honour-based violence. Ashiana offers temporary safe housing and works with the women to enable them to leave their violent situations.

Ashiana provides one-on-one counselling services for women and girls impacted by all forms of violence and where possible, this is done in the client's preferred language. Qualified counsellors and experienced volunteers help give women the confidence and tools to get back on their feet and make more informed choices about their lives and their futures.

Clients are also offered confidential, culturally specific advice on their legal, financial and personal situation.



# ASIAN WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE works

to prevent domestic abuse by helping women and children receive practical and emotional support to help them rebuild their lives. GMSP supports the Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC) to train public service providers such as local councils, teachers, GPs and the police to ensure they understand the cultural drivers and sensitivities around issues of violence in the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) community.



3,000 women and children experiencing domestic violence supported every year



290 women improved their self-esteem and confidence and developed practical skills

# CHALLENGE

Most women leaving violent relationships have to think about money, housing and childcare, but for women from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups, these issues are tied up in a tangle of cultural and social factors that make leaving even more difficult. Community and extended family networks are strong among BAME groups. Leaving the marital home can leave women ostracised from the community and denied the only support system they ever knew.

Women from BAME backgrounds are significantly under-represented in public services and there is little awareness around their specific cultural circumstances or concerns. When BAME women reach out to authorities or social services, not only do they fear the reaction of their communities, they fear not being understood or even subjected to racism from the people meant to protect them.

# ACTION

AWRC support services are delivered in person or on the phone and include on the spot appointments for women in crisis and emergency situations. Services are free, confidential and offered in Bengali, Gujarati, Punjabi, Hindi and Urdu.

AWRC runs a support group for women needing to share their experiences within a safe environment. The group helps women develop their self-confidence and provides an opportunity to meet other women in similar situations. The organisation also helps women understand their rights and advises them on welfare benefits and housing options available to them.

In addition, AWRC hosts weekly networking sessions and workshops on a variety of topics including health, careers and employment advice, creative arts projects, yoga and leisure activities.



Kiranjit Ahluwalia had suffered a **decade of abuse and brutality** at the hands of her husband when, in 1989, she set fire to him. She was charged with murder and imprisoned for life.

The case brought to the fore the plight of women who had **endured years of violence** only to reach a breaking point. It also highlighted the **cultural pressures on women from BAME communities**who suffer in silence.

# SOUTHALL BLACK SISTERS is a leading organisation

that advocates for justice and provides support services to women from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities who experience domestic and sexual violence and other forms of gender-based violence. GMSP has been working with Southall Black Sisters (SBS) for a number of years to reach hundreds of women and children affected by violence – including funding a helpline, core staff costs and other services.



509 cases and 5,196 enquiries dealt with in the last year



99 per cent of people who have used SBS support services report increased safety

# CHALLENGE

The overwhelming majority of women who seek help from SBS present with multiple complex issues, largely to do with violence and abuse requiring several interventions, including assistance with protection, housing, immigration, mental health services and other emotional support. Because mainstream health and social services often fail to understand the particular cultural needs of BAME women, or penalise them for their immigration status, victims of abuse are often wary of seeking help. This exacerbates their social exclusion and increases their risk of further abuse.

SBS recognises the particular needs of this category of vulnerable, marginalised women and operates within an intersectional framework, acknowledging that abused BAME women need more sustained, intense and long-term support because of the multiple layers of discrimination (based on race, caste, class, religion) that marginalise them.

# ACTION

SBS has had a visible and vocal presence pursuing justice for BAME women for 40 years. The organisation was set up in the wake of far-right and anti-fascist rallies in Southall but shot to fame for its successful 1980 campaign to stop virginity testing, a policy carried out by the government on immigrant women to verify their marriages to UK citizens were authentic.

Since then, SBS has held the government, the police and local councils to account via campaigns and legal challenges in its pursuit of justice for BAME women.

In addition to its policy advocacy and campaigning work, SBS offers information, advice, advocacy, resources, self-help support and counselling services at its centre in West London to women experiencing violence, abuse and other forms of inequality.



BAWE and migrant women in England experience higher rates of domestic homicide and are three times more likely to commit suicide than other women in the UK.

# SISTERS FOR CHANGE works to combat violence against

women and girls through legal empowerment programmes, legislative reform and legal advocacy. GMSP partnered with Sisters For Change to conduct a legal research and advocacy project across the UK to show what can be done to adequately support women from the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) community. The purpose of the report is to mobilise more funding and create social policy change to reflect the needs of BAME women.



33 BAME frontline service organisations reached



67 BAME VAWG frontline staff trained

# CHALLENGE

Violence against women is a nationwide problem in the UK, yet some groups will face more obstacles than others when trying to escape their abusers. Women from BAME groups who are dealing with domestic violence are forced to confront a series of complex social, economic and cultural barriers when trying to get help. Around 40 per cent of BAME women live in poverty and 50 per cent experience domestic violence from multiple perpetrators. Some, whose immigration status is precarious, are too scared to approach the authorities. Some may not speak English. Others fear being shunned by their family and community if they leave home.

Despite the growing visibility of BAME women, there is still a fundamental lack of understanding of the social and cultural factors they have to contend with. The support they receive should sensitively and efficiently respond to their specific needs. Instead, funding cuts that have affected all gender violence charities across the UK have hit BAME specialist services the hardest. Today, nine out of ten local authorities have no specialist BAME services.

# ACTION

Sisters For Change, in partnership with BAME organisations across England, has conducted a legal and national advocacy research project that maps the way public authorities are responding to BAME women victims of violence.

The report, entitled "Unequal Regard, Unequal Protection", which is aimed at government officials, policy makers and all those involved in the protection of vulnerable women, evaluates current funding services dedicated to violence against women in the BAME community across six local authorities in England. It recommends legislative and policy changes needed to improve their protection and looks at problems in the implementation of current laws and strategies. It is the most extensive analysis of its kind to date.

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# AKSHAYA PATRA UK works to fight hunger and malnutrition

amongst children and vulnerable communities by providing nutritious free meals. GMSP is supporting Akshaya Patra UK by setting up an entire kitchen in London where it can operate from and provide meals to schools.





# CHALLENGE

Child hunger is a huge problem in the UK.
Around 500,000 children in England go to school on an empty stomach every day and 870,000 go to bed hungry every night. Parents worry they will run out of food before more can be bought and they end up eating less or skipping meals so that their children don't.

Increases in food prices and housing costs mean more households are exposed to hunger. Food that is cheap and more filling is less nutritious, which can lead to long-term health problems for children. Today in the UK, 1 in 10 parents are unable to feed their children without the help of food banks and charities.

School holidays are a particularly difficult time for parents. Over three million children who receive free school meals during term time risk going hungry during the holidays.

# ACTION

Akshaya Patra UK, which has been working to tackle classroom hunger and educational access in India for the last 18 years, is now scaling its reach into the UK. Through partnerships with individuals, corporations and the government, Akshaya Patra UK provides nutritious meals for rough sleepers and school children who are vulnerable to food insecurity during school holidays.

Food is prepared in a centralised kitchen in London and serves 2,000 individuals. Using frugal innovation, each meal costs just 25p. Recipes prepared are healthy, varied, carefully balanced, tasty and designed for slow release energy so that those receiving them can remain focused and full for longer.

Over the school holidays, Akshaya Patra UK teams up with holiday clubs to provide catering for children who would otherwise go hungry over the break.



FOOD FOR ALL provides warm and nutritious vegetarian meals for those experiencing food poverty in the UK using many ingredients that would otherwise be thrown away. GMSP has supported Food for All (FFA) through funding a van for food to be transported, as well as ongoing core costs of the organisation.

2,000 people across the UK are served meals daily



10 million meals served in total

# CHALLENGE

8.4 million people in the UK are struggling to afford to eat. UN figures also show that 5.6 per cent of people aged 15 or over struggle to get enough food. A further 4.5 per cent report that they have been a full day without anything to eat.

Even when food is available, those living in poverty are often forced to make unhealthy choices in order to prevent hunger, which can subsequently lead to problems such as obesity, malnutrition and other diet-related medical issues.

# ACTION

FFA provides freshly cooked food for free, made from ingredients that would otherwise be thrown away for being 'slightly imperfect'.

The food is delivered where possible using emission-free bicycle rickshaws by a core team of volunteers.

FFA has implemented this initiative by asking the public to instigate a campaign against food waste globally.

FFA works closely with homelessness and mental health charities to conduct its services.

# NOAH'S ARK HOSPICE has been providing care and support



1,200 children with lifelimiting or life threatening conditions helped



Supporting children living with 92 conditions under 14 diagnostic categories

# CHALLENGE

Due to medical advances, the number of children living with complex conditions is increasing - and the need to provide these children with complex care and support is increasing in turn.

Having a seriously unwell child can have a severe impact on the whole family. Research by 'Contact a Family' found that 53 per cent of parents say that caring for a disabled child has of, their relationship; and 72 per cent of carers experience poor mental health. A recent study by the charity 'Dying Matters' found that only 16 per cent of families surveyed agreed that there was enough support for people dealing with death, dying and bereavement.

# ACTION

Noah's Ark is growing its existing Hospice-at-Home services, where families receive support in their own homes. It is also partnering with all local neonatal and paediatric wards to provide music therapy, as well as a crèche service in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit at Great Ormond Street Hospital.

In addition, Noah's Ark is constructing The Ark – a children's hospice building for North and Central London. Built on a 7.5 acre nature reserve in Barnet, The Ark will be a home-fromhome for seriously unwell children, where they will be given the time and space to be children and not just patients. It will provide a space for relaxation and adventure, and will allow children and their families to connect with others facing similar challenges.

Crucially, it will provide children's palliative care services that are not currently available in the area through the specialised setting of a children's hospice, including 24-hour endof-life-care and overnight short breaks for children in acute need. There will also be music. art and hydrotherapy jacuzzi rooms.



**BARRITSTOWN** offers free, specially designed camps and programmes for children living with serious illness and their families, with on-site medical and nursing care. GMSP's contribution has helped to support 288 children living with serious illness and their families.



50,000 campers hosted since 1994



8,339 campers served in 2018

# CHALLENGE

For children living with serious illness and for their families, life revolves around doctors' appointments and treatments. As medical health takes precedence, emotional needs receive less active attention. Serious illness and disability can cause immense disruption to a child's life and to that of their families.

With every day of school missed and every activity or party unattended, a child's sense of isolation can grow. The extra amount of work and stress to a family struggling with serious illness depletes them of the energy and funds to schedule in leisure and fun and can lead to depression.

# ACTION

Barretstown is recognised as a centre of excellence in childhood cancer care and other serious illnesses. Higher rates of cancer diagnosis and improved survival rates are leading to an increase in demand for Barretstown's services, as more and more children and families need emotional and physiological support during and after treatment.

Barretstown works with all the main paediatric centres in the UK who refer children affected by serious conditions – primarily cancer and blood diseases. Its skilled medical and activity staff is supported by over 1,700 volunteers each year.

Campers are referred to Barretstown based on their medical needs. Accommodation, food and medical assistance are provided at no cost to the family.

Barretstown's programmes include a wide range of activities including horse riding, arts and crafts, creative writing, canoeing, fishing, drama and music. An on-site medical team follows the medical regime advised by each child's doctor.

# OUR THANKS

Our organisation would not exist were it not for the **tireless work of grassroots organisations and community leaders** who get up every single day to fight for vulnerable communities in the face of immense challenges. Our humblest appreciation goes to them for the work they do and for their contributions in helping us put together this report.

Our deep thanks goes to the **British Asian Trust** and **Dasra** for their **support and partnership** over the years. We would also like to thank **I.G. Advisors** who have guided us to **strengthen our mission with energy and enthusiasm**.

We are grateful to **Standard Chartered Bank** for its backing on the **Rise Together Campaign** and to **UBS Optimus** for **match funding Think Equal grants.** 

At GMSP, we are guided by spirituality that transcends religions, race, orientation and background. Our greatest recognition and gratitude goes to the Universal Spirit for binding us all together, regardless of where we are in the world and what our daily realities may be.













Another world is not only possible, she is on her way.
On a quiet day,
I can hear her

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breathing

- Arundhati Roy

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