

Brief History of Our Work in Bandra Terminus

Initially, when we started working with beneficiaries from Bandra Terminus we noticed that most of the children were into labour practice like washing car, domestic work, etc... There were hardly children who used to go to the school. Not just this, we also found children engaged in substance abuse. This was the main reason why we started working in this area.

Initially, we just had 70 children. We started providing non-formal education to these children by conducting the classes under the trees. This encouraged more students to join in and our count reached till 110 children and 800 families. As the time passed, the children started going to the school and the count of child labour and child marriage drastically fell down.

In 2007, we got a place in the same area where we began with a child support centre with 90 children enrolled in it as our beneficiaries. We also noticed drastic fall in the count of drop outs this year onwards.

From 2008 to 2019 our count of beneficiaries raised to 150. Children started pursuing higher education in the fields of Nursing, DMLT, etc. most of the girls from Muslim community face restrictions to pursue higher education they too started pursuing studies till graduation. We also have a girl who is being trained for a police force.



Next, we conducted a survey and helped girls who were orphan or whose parents had Tuberculosis / AIDS / Leprosy. We also started a family planning program with families who had more number of children / members staying together under the same roof.

We maintain the record of each beneficiary along with the documents of all the family members. We also help our children with regards to getting their birth certificate, ration card, election card, opening their bank accounts, etc. Also, we conduct medical camps on regular intervals to ensure healthy well-being of our beneficiaries.

No. of Children placed in BMC and Private Schools: 90 Children

No. of Children's educational fees being paid: 57 Children

No. of Children's tuition fees being paid: 40 Children

Women Rehabilitated: Total 250

Nutritional meals provided for: 281 Families & 110 Children

Vocational training: The counts for various vocational training being provided is mentioned below:-

Beautician Class	:	40 Women
Nursing class	:	04 Children
DMCT	:	02 Boys
Cooking Class	:	30 Women
I.G.P. Workshop	:	80 Women
Dance Class	:	30 Children
Computer Class	:	60 Children

These vocational training has encouraged a lot of people to enrol with us. Also, this has encouraged more number of girls who were a victim of gender discrimination to take a stand and enrol themselves for the course they are interested in. Beneficiaries have been provided with the job placements too post completing their vocational training. Girls also became entrepreneurs post completing these vocational trainings.

Extra-curricular: 20 Children

Beneficiaries specifically girls are encouraged for sports like football. We have collaborated with Parcham NGO to provide free football training to our girls. This has raised the self-esteem of our girls and especially these group are training for coaching for other centre.



Children in Children's Parliament: 3 Groups (30 x 3 = 90 children)

Youth Group: 1 Group of 30 Children

Self-Health Groups: 3 Women's Groups and 1 Males Group

Shelter Admissions: 2 Orphan Boys + 9 boys from single parent families + 4 Girls.

These children were provided support to get enrolled in different NGOs.

Working with NGOs: We have collaborated with several NGOs like Yuva, Aangan, Akshara, Umeed, CCDT, Yuva Parivartan, Parcham, Bhumi, Feeding India, Jan Shiksha Dharavi, Bhartiya Stree, Shakti Sangathna, American care, etc.

Health Camps: Several camps have been organised collaborating with different NGOs like Body check-ups, general medical camp have been organised since past 3 to 4 years in Bandra and in Vile Parle since past 2 years sponsored by LNT, Blood check-ups, IQ test, Eye camp, etc. This has proved to be benefitted people who have been enrolled with us.

Case Studies

- Imran Khan, 24 year old boy from Bandra slum lived with 4 brothers and 1 sister. His elder brother Irfan Khan wanted to study further and so he got financial support from our organization to pursue DMLT. Today, Irfan has got a job and is in a good position to support his family. Usman and Rehman are other two brothers who too got support in studying. They belonged to a poor family having too many children and therefore, faced lack of resources. All the children enrolled in our organization in 1999 and got support for pursuing studies. Imran now volunteers in the organization (Sneha Sagar)). He also learnt mobile repairing vocational work through Yuva Parivartan. Now, he works in Salaam Bombay as the programme coordinator and is married and blessed with a daughter.
- Pooja Subhash Naidu, a 24 year old girl from a single mother. Pooja's father died when she was too young. She has one sister and one brother. Her mom is a domestic worker. Pooja failed in 10th post which she took one year's break and joined Gaikwad institute and pursued Nursing for two years. She then continued her studies from Yashvantrao. Pooja did her internship for a year in Mahim Nursing Home. Now she looks after patients personally by doing home visits and earns 1000-1500/- per day per patient. Now the entire family is settled. Sneha Sagar has supported her siblings too. Today even her younger sister is working in HDFC bank and her brother is also studying

Special Cases

- On 17th June 2019, when children were using the public toilet, one youth boy started showing his private body parts to the girls. The girls came home and complained about it to their parents. Instead of encouraging the girls to take any action the parents asked the girls to remain silent about it. Same incident happened again on the next day.
This time the girls directly went to the Nagpada police station and lodge a complaint against that boy. Soon the boy was arrested by the police. The community people and the boy's parents asked the girls to take back their complaint but the girls didn't agree to do so.
Everybody in the community was surprised to see the courage that was shown by these children's parliament girls. Children's parliament encourages the girls to be courageous and empowers them to take the stand against the odds.
- The case is about Deepika Sanju Kumar, 12 year old girl from Bhajiwadi. One afternoon while she was returning home from the school. A familiar shopkeeper, 26 year old offered her a chocolate. The girl took the chocolate and gave money in return. The shopkeeper denied to take the money and asked the girl to take this as a gift.
Next day while the girl was returning from the same route, the same shopkeeper started abusing her. She came and shared all this with her friend, Khushboo (Ex- C.P. child).
Same noon both the girls went to the police station and lodged a complaint. The shopkeeper was soon arrested under the article 535.
Deepika was also taken for a medical checkup after that. The family members of the shopkeeper pressurized her to take back the case. But she denied.
This is how girls from children's parliament feels empowered. They also got awareness about POCSO act through police officers.
