VISION RESCUE

Annual Report 2018-19



VISION RESCUE -ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19 FORWARD

THE YEAR OF INFLUENCE

years ago, Vision Rescue was founded on the footpath of Mahim station with six street children, some vadapav and our heart to serve. Today as I look back on our journey, I'm honoured to say that while we've served 1417 children in this year alone, our heart to Reach out with Love to every exploited child only beats stronger.

We began this year with a call to each of our staff to be a "force of influence" in all spheres of their lives. It was a challenge that required us to be intentionally influential in every interaction keeping in mind the ABCs approachable, bold and compassionate. We spent the year learning to be approachable to the most neglected in our communities, bold about standing up for social justice, and always compassionate without calculating the cost. The results have enabled us to expand our influence to empower children in remarkable ways.

We exist to free children from all forms of exploitation by engaging and sustaining them in education. This year, we educated not just 1417 children within our classrooms across some of India's poorest slum communities, we were also able to enroll 1033 children into formal schools near their slums and help sustain them in education too! The year also saw the launch of a brand new Beacon Learning Centre and Community Centre in the slum community at Mandala, Mumbai, bringing in 246 children and their community into the Vision Rescue family.

To sustain all of these children in education, we've provided over 226,220 nutritious meals through our weekday nutrition outreach, taken care of our children's health through numerous assessments, camps and treatments, as well as enriched their education experience with sports training.



This was also the year where we dug deeper roots into working closely with the families of our children, in order to remove any barrier that was hindering children from pursuing education. Through extensive work by our community managers and community workers, we were able to complete thorough case management work for 1145 families, uplifting 495 of them through direct healthcare intervention and improving the financial independence of 570 families. 6429 community members also benefit from our numerous medical and dental awareness camps educating them about the healthcare issues within their slum community.

We know that every such effort is cutting the ties that bind children to illiteracy, and helping them break out of the cycle of poverty in their generation.

I'm also proud to announce that this year we launched our very first Culinary Training Institute in partnership with Open Gate International, to train the unskilled from our slum communities in the culinary arts. 17 students formed our first batch, and they've all graduated with placement opportunities for all from the hospitality industry in Mumbai! Our vocational training program is going strong as well with 286 mothers and sisters of our children graduating our courses this year, and handcrafting over 17,774 pieces of 18 different products for sale. What a joy to watch them step into skilled empowerment and financial independence!

This year also marked the launch of our Community Champions Development Program where 287 of our parents entered a year-long training and field experience program where they will be raised to become influential forces of change within their own slum communities.

To empower them and hundreds of other families, we've also networked with over 30 fellow nonprofits, businesses and government bodies so that we can leverage each of our strengths. We're working towards a day where these Community Champions will spearhead the upliftment and empowerment of their own people.

To this end, we're also working to strengthen communities through our School Support Program. Here, we've networked with five municipal schools attended by many children from our slum communities. For 233 children in these schools, who were bordering on dropping out, we began self defense classes and football training to incentivise education. The turnaround has been incredible. Within a year, they've become the forerunners in their classes, and now we aim to expand this Program into parent engagement sessions, teacher training etc to sustain thousands more children in education at many more partner municipal schools.

The project also roped in 94 volunteers from colleges to invest 1498 hours working in education and healthcare for children in Vision Rescue's slum communities.

Finally, 2018-19 has also seen us deepen our spheres of influence at colleges and corporates across Mumbai through our volunteer mobilisation project The Movement India (TMI). TMI works through advocacy, talent development and volunteering to meet needs in the areas of human trafficking, mental health and education for poor income communities.

This year saw over 1450 citizens join TMI in the global Walk for Freedom with nonprofit A21 to raise awareness about human trafficking at five locations in Mumbai and Chennai.

TMI also successfully trained over 760 youth at colleges and corporates to de-stigmatize depression through the Hangout program.

As I write this note, 100 million children in India live in extreme poverty, that's over a third of the world's burden of the poor. It is our dream to see a day when each of those children in our great nation are freed from all forms of exploitation that comes with a life in poverty. As you read the pages to come you will meet face to face with many such children who've taken large strides of progress towards intergenerational transformation, only because supporters like you have stood by our side. Together, let's use our circles of influence intentionally to empower every last personin need around us.

Gratefully Biju Thampy Founder - Vision Rescue



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OUR VISION

Empowering people to find their purpose, enjoy their rights, and live with dignity.

OUR MISSION

o free children from all forms of exploitation by engaging and sustaining them in education. This empowers them to change mindsets and make good life choices that promote intergenerational transformation

OUR WORK

o free children from all forms of exploitation by engaging them in education, Vision Rescue runs Beacon Learning Centres and Bus Programs that offer both non-formal and formal learning inside impoverished slum communities in Mumbai, Kolkata & Chennai. To sustain children directly in education, we also provide them with Nutrition, Healthcare services and Sports education.

To sustain children in education, we also work closely with our children's families through a Case Management model that offers families opportunities to build their employability skills through our Vocational Training Programs and avail of our Healthcare services. This ensures that families' financial burdens and healthcare concerns don't disrupt childrens' pursuit of education.

We also work to transform our children's communities at large by conducting community development initiatives through our stationary hubs called Community Centres inside slums. Through our School Support Program

we also seek to empower and strengthen the municipal schools near our slums so that underprivileged children studying there from these slums can sustain in their education.

Finally, through The Movement India, we seek to match the skill abundance at colleges and corporates in India's megacities with the need abundance of India's slum communities. The Movement India mobilises volunteer talent to serve in the areas of human trafficking, mental health and education for poor income communities.

WORK WITH CHILDREN



QUICK FACTS

EDUCATION

A third of the world's population of children in extreme poverty live in India¹. Mumbai's slums are home to thousands of such children, suffering ill-health, maln ourishment, and illiteracy in tin-sheet homes on streets strewn with garbage, surrounded by violence, growing up in communities rife with crime.

Vision Rescue exists to free children from all forms of exploitation by engaging and sustaining them in education.

To this end, Vision Rescue was founded in 2004 by feeding and educating six children on a railway platform in Mumbai. We then began a bridging education program that sent buses into slum communities, within which hundreds of children were fed and educated.

We believe the safest place for a child is the classroom, and the most effective route to lift children out of the cyclical trap of poverty is to empower them with education, so that they can step out of a mindset of lack and step into a future filled with promise.

From 2016, we've established Beacon Learning Centres, with 21 classrooms inside four of Mumbai's poorest slums, reaching 1417 children, between the ages of 3 & 14, with quality primary and pre-primary education. Children graduate our courses and are then enrolled in formal education at municipal or private schools, following which we support the child and their family to sustain in education.

million children in India are out of school as of 2018, according to the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

of out-of-school children in the age group of 5-18 live in urban India, says the Census of India 2011. 1

percent of these children used to attend school but have eventually dropped out. 2

million orphaned children call India home. 11 million have been abandoned. and 9 in 10 of them are girls. ³

children disappear in India **UU** each year. A majority of them are entrapped in forced beggary. domestic servitude and other forms of bonded child labour, sexual exploitation or forced marriage. 4

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2. Singh, Anisha (2017, October 11) International Day Of The Girl Child 2017: Education A Basic Necessity For Girl Child Empowerment. NDTV Retrieved from https://www.ndtv.com/education/international-dav-of-girls-education-a-basic-necessity-for-girl-child-empowerment-176144

> 3. Times News Network, (2011, April 22) 90% of 11m abandoned kids are girls. The Times of India Retrieved from https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/90-of-11m-abandoned-kids-are-qirls/articleshow/8052318.cms

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5. Press Trust of India (2016, October 5) 30% of very poor children live in India: Unicef. The Economic Times. Retrieved from https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/30-of-very-poor-children-live-in-india-unicef/articleshow/54685244.cms

2018-19 EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENTS

906 children among them sustained in formal school education.

1417 children enrolled in Vision Rescue's Beacon **Learning Centres inside** 4 slum communities in Mumbai.

254 children engaged in Bus programs in Mumbai,

education through onboard Kolkata & Chennai.

63 % of parents on average attended Parent-Teacher Meetings & 62 % of parents attended Open-House Meetings.

1131 children celebrated significant occasions such as Children's Day, Teacher's Day, Independence Day, Diwali, Christmas etc through festivities at our Beacon Learning Centres.

177 children participated in One Day for Change, an art activity and competition organised by network organisation InDeed.

1033 children enrolled in formal school education in Mumbai through Vision Rescue.

400 children engaged in **Summer Camps through** April & May 2018.



STORIES OF CHILDREN EMPOWERED

Din **Akinju** 9 years

Rescued. de-addicted. restored

workers found Din last summer, velcomed him into our Bridging education classes and began counselling him out of begging

Before Vision Rescue met Din, his daily routine was to hop in and out of Mumbai's local trains ticketless, beg for alms until he had enough money to buy the drugs and alcohol that he was addicted to, and then spend the rest of the night getting high.

Vision Rescue's community workers found Din last summer. welcomed him into our Bridging education classes and began counselling him out of begging and substance abuse. Although he ran away once, he returned to pick

In mid-2018, Amina was walking the slum streets when she was abducted

rescued and the perpetrator arrested.

er brother

ina was

for the second time. He

alerted her family an wung into action. A

up his education, and today he comes to class even if his mother isn't at home to drop him off at our Beacon Learning Centre inside his slum! From nearly losing his future to beggary and addiction, Din's precious life is today cherished and nurtured through education.



Allauddin lives in a slum community bordering Asia's largest landfill, situated in east Mumbai. Like most children here, his regular haunt was the trash piles, scavenging for rubbish he could salvage and recycle for cash.

Four years ago he had dropped out of fourth standard and as a teenager now. he saw no future for himself in education. Even after Allauddin joined Vision Rescue's Open Basic Education course, he used to miss classes frequently. It turned out that



A beautiful exchange

as the eldest child among five, it was his daily duty to forage for firewood in the dumpyard so that his mother could cook at home. The family was too poor to afford even a gas connection. No firewood, no food. Poverty and hunger were stealing Allauddin's education from him. Our community workers intervened and counselled Allauddin's parents about prioritising education and the risks of child labour. His parents took him off scavenging duty and started sending him for classes regularly. A year with us and Allauddin's hands have exchanged rubbish heaps for school books, for good!



Sapna 9 years

Dreams do come true

Amina 4 years

Safe from slum dangers

> Amina has been abducted twice in her short life. When she was just four months old, she was kidnapped and abandoned at a garbage dump, where she was discovered a few days later and handed over

to police. After two years in shelter homes, and long legal battles, Amina was restored to her mother and step father Abdul. The family survives on Abdul's daily wage income as a hawker selling items in local trains.

Education for Amina and her younger brother was impossible on Abdul's income, so the children were enrolled into our Beacon Learning Centre inside their slum community. In mid-2018 though, Amina was walking the slum streets when she was abducted again. Her brother alerted her family and our team swung into action. Amina was rescued and the perpetrator arrested. Today, she's back in the safety of our classroom, enjoying lessons and dreaming of a bright future.

Sapna and her siblings had never been to school. They'd spent most of their lives making garlands for their father to sell on the streets for a living. In this fight for survival in their slum community, Sapna's dreams had died a slow death. At Vision Rescue's Beacon Learning Centre, Sapna and her siblings discovered education for the very first time.

They received a nutritious meal every afternoon, as well as healthcare and counselling for their family As first generation learners, Sapna was the first in her family to leave labour for the classroom. Today, Sapna dreams of becoming a teacher someday and she's determined to make that dream come true. Education, for Sapna, has been the sole weapon equipping her to live up to her name.

NUTRITION 4 am is the busiest time

2018-19 NUTRITION ACHIEVEMENTS

226,220 nutritious meals were served to our children every weekday after classes throughout the academic year.

of the day at the Vision
Rescue kitchen. Mixers
whizzing, knives hacking,
cauldrons bubbling, every
staffer hard at work preparing
a rich nutritious lunch for the
1417 children that will flood
our Beacon Learning Centres
later that day.

For many of our children, this is the only hearty meal they eat each day.

Every afternoon, after lessons, they take home a packed yellow lunch box filled to the brim with food that's tailormade by our nutritionists to enrich undernourished bodies.

We know that a hungry mind can't learn in peace. That's why from Vision Rescue's very inception, we've ensured that children have full tummies, thus freeing their minds to grow.

To date, we've served over 3.5 million meals to some of the poorest of the poor children in India, and to date, there's no greater joy than watching one of our children enjoy our home-cooked meal.

In addition to the mid-day meal, we conduct nutrition workshops to build awareness among parents, as well as assess the health of every child twice during the academic year.

Those diagnosed with malnutrition are immediately referred to a network nutrition clinic, gifted nutritional supplements as required, counselled through the year on proper diet practices and monitored until they cross over into good health.

148 children, among our 1417 students, were diagnosed as having Severe Acute Malnutrition or Moderate Acute Malnutrition. Each child was given referral treatments and follow ups leading to complete recovery of all 148.

121 parents participated in awareness workshops on the importance of adequate nutrition.

QUICK FACTS

46.6 million children in India are stunted - that's more than one-third of the world's burden of malnourished children. ¹

44% of children under the age of 5 are underweight. 2

out of 117 - that's India's rank on the Global Hunger Index published in 2019 - classifying India's hunger levels as "serious". 3

15. Vision Rescue

^{1.} Press Trust of India (2018, November 29) India has one-third of the world's stunted children: Global nutrition report. The Economic Times. Retrieved from: https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/india-has-one-third

^{2.} Varma, Subodh (2012, January 15) Superpower? 230 million Indians go hungry daily. The Times of India. Retrieved from : https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Superpower-230-million-Indians-go-hungry-daily/articleshow/11494502.cms

^{3.} The Wire Staff (2019, October 16) India Ranks 102 Out of 117 Countries in Global Hunger Index. The Wire. Retrieved from https://thewire.in/food/indias-ranks-102-out-of-117-countries-in-global-hunger-index

STORIES OF CHILDREN EMPOWERED

Firoz Shaikh 6 years

From sickness to health

or most of his life, Firoz has been raised by his eight-yearold elder brother. Their parents worked hard all day as an electrician and housemaid to sustain their family of six. The children spent their days alone

and mostly wandered around their slum in north Mumbai. When the children were enrolled into Vision Rescue's Beacon our teachers noticedhat Firoz wasn't as physicallyactive as his peers. He was malnourished.

The daily nutritious meal he received after our classes wasn't enough to revive him, so the team took him to a nutritional clinic, got him supplements and frequently Sure enough, with all the love, care, nutrition and medicines, Firoz got completely well, and is today enthusiastic about his education!.

Learning Centre inside their slum, followed up on his development

Sofiya is one of seven

live in one of Mumbai's

Sofiya's case, she never

first place.

children to parents who poorest slum communities. Every second child below six here is malnourished and seven out of 10 girls drop out after Class 7. In even got to school in the

Her three eldest siblings study at the local municipal school, but their father, a tailor of purses and the sole earning member of the family, couldn't afford education for the next three children. So Sofiya spent her days playing on the unsafe streets of her slum community. In June 2018, Sofiya S.

Poverty: wellbeing's worst thief

our community workers found Sofiya and her two siblings roaming the roads, and enrolled them into our classes inside their slum community. The years of lack had eaten away at Sofiya's health though, and she was diagnosed malnourished. Our team has helped her build strength through nutritional supplements, diet counselling for the whole family and a hearty, nutritious meal every weekday. Sofiya is finally getting to lead the life of health and wellness she always deserved.



Beloved but born disadvantaged

hen Priva was born, her mother's body still bore the marks of domestic violence from an abusive marriage. Unable to handle her alcoholic husband anymore, her mother left their home, birthed Priva at

her parents' house and named her "beloved". As soon as Priya turned three, her mother brought her to Vision Rescue's Beacon Learning Centre. At Priya's very first health assessment, our team diagnosed her as

malnourished. The early years of extreme poverty had taken their toll on Priya's young body. Our medical team brought a nutritionist in to look after Priya, created a nutrient-rich diet for her and monitored her progress for an entire year until she climbed the numbers into good health.

Priya went on to complete two more years with us and is now in Primary. Her malnourishment is no longer an impediment to her dreams!

■ittle Teherim has the world's brightest smile. Behind that smile though, is a story of struggle as one of 4 children dependent on the erratic income of their father, a truck driver. Teherim has known many nights of hunger in their tin sheet home that borders Asia's largest garbage dump. It was no surprise that she was malnourished when Vision Rescue first met her.

Nearly half the children under six in her slum community face hunger daily. But with care and timely intervention, Teherim's body began to respond to good nutrition and adequate supplements. The counselling her mother Farida received about proper diet practices was so effective, that Farida is now one of our 'Community Champions' advocating for nutrition and education in her neighbourhood!



Teherim S. 4 years

Champions for nutrition

17. Vision Rescue

Priya

5 years

HEALTHCARE 1092 follow-up dental

2018-19 **HEALTHCARE ACHIEVEMENTS**

1017 children underwent the first health assessment, 866 children the second health assessment.

> 952 children benefit from pediatric camps.

549 children were immunised against measles and rubella.

> 692 mothers and children benefit from health camps.

This ensures that every one of our children can access adequate medical help for any condition they may have.

very child enrolled with

Vision Rescue benefits from

two healthcare assessments

during the academic year.

monitored by our medical

team and the child's personal

community worker, to ensure

that no medical issue deters

their progress in education.

assessments, our children

immunisations, deworming programs, measles and rubella

paediatric camps. As visible

from the 'Quick Facts' here,

these are key factors that

hinder children born in

poverty from thriving in

expert visits.

education. Our healthcare

team has also networked with

over 28 government hospitals,

private institutions, nonprofits

and medical colleges to create

a robust system of referrals and

vaccinations and regular

They are then closely

Besides these health

benefit from routine

Every child also benefits from two dental screenings during the academic year, with follow up treatments and referrals as required. Regular dental awareness camps for children also help them maintain good oral hygiene year round.

Through our healthcare initiatives, Vision Rescue aims to empower children from impoverished communities with the services they lack access to, freeing them to pursue their dreams in education.

1448 children and parents benefit from deworming awareness programs.

1146 children attended dental awareness programs & 705 children benefited from dental check up camps.

1138 children underwent dental screening in the first term and 893 in the second term.

children were referred for treatment. 637 children

completed and 193

checkups were

underwent health screening.

QUICK FACTS

of India's poorest children are not fully immunized. 1

million children below the age of 5 died from preventable diseases in 2015 alone, due to lack of timely immunization. ³

of the world's deaths by measles occur in India. 2

million children between the ages 1 – 14 years in India are at risk of parasitic intestinal worms.4

1. Antani, Pankti (2019, September 19) 47% Of India's Poorest Children, 30% Of Richest Not Fully Immunised India Spend. Retrieved from https://www.indiaspend.com/47-of-indias-poorest-children-30-of-richest-not-fully-immunised/

2. Sayyed, Nozia; Khairnar, Abhay (2018, December 07) All you need to know about the measles rubella vaccination drive that is underway in Pune. Hindustan Times. Retrieved from

https://www.hindustantimes.com/pune-news/rubella-vaccine-is-safe-shot-of-life/story-Dh6scMF2vO5dPzsBGKwOcL.html

3. Tiwari Sadhika (2019, November 9) India's Vaccination Mission Narrows Focus To Meet March 2020 Target, India Spend Retrieved from https://www.indiaspend.com/indias-vaccination-mission-narrows-focus-to-meet-march-2020-target/

4. Upadhyay, Aishwarya (2019, November 19) Deworming For Children In India: Here Are Five Things To Know. SwachhIndia NDTV. Retrieved from https://swachhindia.ndtv.com/deworming-for-children-in-india-here-are-five-things-to-know-39823/

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STORIES OF CHILDREN EMPOWERED

Safina couldn't even walk. Her parents, who are uneducated, said that there just was an insect in her stomach.

5 years

Help in time saves lives

Rehan Naie

10 years

Knocked down but not

school. But with mounting

find an affordable school, so

Rehan remained a drop out.

medical bills his family couldn't

ree hospitals refused to treat Rehan's broken elbow because his family did not nave any government dentification or address

knocked out

In early 2017, Rehan broke his elbow in his hometown at Gonda him into Class 1 at our Beacon district, Uttar Pradesh. With no adequate medical help available Within a few weeks though, there, Rehan was unable to Rehan stopped coming to class. continue in school and his family His elbow had cracked again decided to migrate to Mumbai because of the poor operation for treatment. The family moved done by the private hospital. into a temporary hutment in a Our medical team was able to burgeoning slum community in get Rehan to a network hospital east Mumbai. His father took up a job as a barber earning about this time. Rehan recovered well Rs. 200 a day, and then began enough to return to our classes, their search for a hospital for Rehan. Three hospitals rejected his follow-up physiotherapy too! Rehan because the family did Rehan comes early every day to not have any government identification or address proof as they were slum dwellers. drawing and eating his mid-day Finally, Rehan was treated at a snack! He wants to grow up and private hospital with high fees, become a fashion designer. and he was ready to return to

In June this year, our community worker met Rehan and admitted Learning Centre inside their slum. and redo the operation, successfully and our medical team is supporting welcome the other students, and he looks forward to learning Hindi,

Safina's parents are illiterate; her oldest sibling struggles with a physical handicap and the next three have dropped out of school over the years. Safina was the first child in the family to stick with her education and she loved coming to our Beacon Learning Centre nursery every day. A few months in though, she began to miss classes frequently.

Our community worker visited her home and discovered that Safina's stomach was so bloated, she couldn't even walk. Her parents said that there was an insect in her stomach. They hadn't yet taken her to a doctor. With counselling, Safina's parents were convinced to get her examined. Our medical team accompanied the family and handheld Safina through the entire course of treatment as her parents were uneducated and struggled to understand the doctor. Safina recovered completely and is regular at our classes now.



Ali S. 6 years

A hand up out of disease

Ali is one of 7 children and his family lives in a slum community that borders Mumbai's largest landfill. Trash is their constant companion. During monsoon, the gutters overflow into their kuchcha street and their one-room hutment is never dry. The entire family suffered from a disease named Tinea - an easily communicable skin condition often caused by excessive

Because of Tinea, Ali's father couldn't make it to his job as an auto driver regularly; the older girls were no longer at school, and Ali himself rarely came to our Vision Rescue classes. Our medical team intervened and referred the family to our network hospital where they were all treated and have recovered completely today. Ali is back in class and his sisters have joined our vocational training classes too!

21. Vision Rescue Annual Report 2018-19 **22.** exposure to dampness.

STORIES OF CHILDREN EMPOWERED



ision Rescue's Sports program began as a means to engage children uninterested in education, by incentivising sports training alongside our classes. Over the last 15 years, we've grown from just a senior boys football team, to now a senior boys cricket team and junior boys and girls football teams.

At our programs these young athletes grow in their discipline, time management, sportsmanship and teamwork, thus ultimately arresting dropout rates. For the boys in our senior teams, the daily practice sessions have also been a way to channel their energies productively, rather than being drawn into the social evils that abound in their slum communities.

Once children graduate our education courses, we enroll them in formal schools that are quick to tap into the kids' sporting gifts. Just this year, two of our students Shradda & Sameer, who were admitted into a Bhoiwada municipal school, won the Best Player awards for their school football team!

For many of the children in our slum communities, being professionally coached in sports is a dream that may never have come true without Vision Rescue. The exposure they receive playing and winning against more privileged teams at city tournaments, getting to escort Indian and international players before thousands in stadiums, ¹ and being scouted by professional sporting clubs, helps them see that they too can make a worthy living through sports.

Raees A. 5 years

A race for gold

Raees' father could only send his older two children to school on his daily-wager's income. Raees remained at home, roaming the dumpyard near his house, until one day he was enrolled into our free Beacon Learning Centre inside at our annual Sports Day their slum. By now though, Raees had gotten used to the

Raees had gotten used to the freedom of playing in the dumping ground all day, and it took our community workers numerous follow-ups to ensure he came to class. That's until we discovered his

it took our community workers numerous followups to ensure he came to class. That's until we discovered Raees' love for sports! Raees was so excited to run the races that he even told his teacher the police forces that he would win a medal freedom of playing all day, and for certain. And guess what?

He did win a gold medal in racing! Raees is now motivated even further to stick with his studies and achieve his dream of joining one day.



Gulam Jilani 5 years

Against all odds

ulam is just 10 but he has borne the brunt of an alcoholic father, braved a separated family and survived life as almost an orphan, living with his father's sister alone in Mumbai. He had dropped out of school after migrating to Mumbai and no one had the money to help

him restart again. When Vision Rescue roped Gulam into our Open Basic Education course for drop-outs, Gulam found learning very difficult. He barely knew any Hindi and was weighed down by the loss of his family.

Over a year with us, we discovered his love for art and sports. The absolute highlight

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2018-19 SPORTS ACHIEVEMENTS

Our junior boys football team were Runners Up of the Pallava League and 2nd Runners Up in the Kenkre NGO Football Tournament.

882 children from our education programs participated in Sports Days on November 12th & 13th 2018 winning medals and certificates for various types of running and hurdles races.

Our junior boys football team won the Under 12 Thunderbolt Football League, and our junior girls were the runners up of the Under-14 tournament at the same league. Two of our football trainees Shradda & Sameer - played
for their government school
at the interschool MCGM Chava
Cup and were awarded Best Players
in the Under-10 and Under-12 category.

Our footballers were chosen to escort international players during the Intercontinental Football Tournament in Mumbai, as well as accompany Indian players from the Mumbai City FC, Kerala Blasters & Bengaluru FC teams at ISL matches in Mumbai. Three of our senior cricket team players - Faizan, Arbaz & Vivek - got to play for the Maharashtra Cricket Association. Faizan scored two half centuries.

At the Rejuvenators NGO football tournament our player Harsh won the Best Goalkeeper award while another of our students Pradeep won the Best Player award.



OUR **WORK WITH FAMILIES**



CASE MANAGEMENT

vision Rescue exists to free children from all forms of exploitation by engaging and sustaining them in education. While our education programs engage children effectively, we've seen many children unable to learn freely as they are weighed down by the shackles of malnourishment, ill health, financial instability, addiction and abuse within their own family. To break children out of this bondage of poverty, we launched our Case Management System that Rescue's support. Some tasks are offers a host of allied services to the child's family with the sole aim

Upon admission, each child is allotted a community officer who conducts detailed conversations the child's status index (CSI) score, which falls within High, Medium & Low.

The factors examined include the child's food security, nutrition, shelter, care, emotional health, legal protection, abuse and exploitation etc.

Based on this score, a thorough Family Care Plan is drawn up featuring specific goals for the child and family's upliftment. Through rigorous counselling techniques, each goal is broken up into clear tasks for both the child and as basic as maintaining better hygiene practices at home. Others of sustaining the child in education. may be as complex as a de-addiction program for an alcoholic father.

Some goals are accomplished by linking the family in need to one of with the child's family to determine our network organisations' services or by referring the family member to one of our internal programs.

For example, a mother in a family struggling with financial independence is referred to our vocational training program for employability skill development, or a father with a tobacco addiction may be referred to our dental team for oral treatment.

Each task and goal is reviewed weekly or bimonthly at one-on-one meetings between family members and their respective community worker, and these are documented through detailed case family to accomplish along with Vision notes. Every six months, the CSI rating is reviewed to track progress.

> It is this in-depth process of closely monitoring and empowering families that has helped Vision Rescue not just engage, but sustain children in education. With burdens such as parents' lack of income, medical troubles, addictions etc lifted off the child's shoulders, they're now truly free to find their purpose, enjoy their rights and live with dignity.

2018-19 CASE MANAGEMENT **ACHIEVEMENTS**

1145 families of our children are being closely intervened and engaged with through our Case Management System.

495 families of our children have directly benefited from Vision Rescue's healthcare services during their times of sickness.

> 570 families have found employment or demonstrated improved financial situations after Vision Rescue's targeted interventions.

190 families have been hand handled through the journey from Child Status Index as High Risk to the reduced Medium Risk status.

> 157 families have been supported through the journey from Child Status Index as Medium Risk to the reduced Low Risk status.

STORY OF A FAMILY EMPOWERED

Ayan 4 years

A hand up for every member in this family!

■ittle Ayan was roaming the streets of his slum community when Vision Rescue's community worker first met him. Ayan had never been to school as his parents were too poor to afford even the commute to the nearest free municipal school. Ayan was enrolled into the junior kindergarten class at our Beacon Learning Centre inside his slum community. Along with all his education materials and the daily nutritious meal we also supported him with dental workups and a health checkup.

In time, Ayan's community worker unravelled his family's story.

Ayan's father Mohinuddin had got into a fight 12 years ago and was stabbed. He was wounded so severely that he had to sell his house to pay for the treatment. His wife Akhlima and children Minaj, Fiza and Mehboob were left homeless and Mohinuddin never returnedto a full-time job. He slipped into alcoholism and smoking, sometimes stooping unburdened by the trials of to domestic abuse. The family had relocated to the present slum community in north Mumbai to somehow begin life again.

With sustained counselling and networking over the course of a year, we were able to help Mohinuddin start and run his own chicken shop in the slum community!

Ayan's mother Akhlima became a community champion with Vision Rescue, eagerly participating in the health camps and encouraging her community to educate their children. Alkima even encouraged her 16-yearold daughter Fiza to join our vocational training course. Fiza then successfully completed our mehendi design, hairstyling and self-defence courses!

Earlier in the year, Mehboob, the third child in the family, was unable to attend his government school classes regularly as he had a medical bladder issue. Our medical team referred him to a hospital where he was treated and equipped to return to his education.

Every member of Avan's family has been empowered through Vision Rescue's work. Our greatest joy though, is to see Ayan sustain and grow in education, poverty that his family faces.

Ayan's sister Fiza successfully completed our mehendi design, hair-styling and self-defence courses.

Ayan's mother Akhlima volunteers as a community champion with Vision Rescue, aising awareness about education, healthcare and nutrition in her community

Through counselling and networking

slum community, thus removing

their financial instability.

Ayan's father Mohinuddin was empowered to start and run his own chicken shop in his

> Ayan's brother Mehboob was helped by our healthcare team to solve a bladder problem that was causing him to miss school.



QUICK FACTS

million girls go missing every decade in India from sex selective abortions and newborn death by neglect. 1

million people live in modern-day slavery in India, which includes those trapped by trafficking for sex, labour, organs, marriages, according to the Global Slavery Index 2018. ²

n 2016, we launched our Vocational Training program for mothers of our Beacon Learning Centre children, for adolescent girls who had dropped out of education and for young, unskilled women. The sole aim of this program is to help women become financially independent so that they can eventually sustain their children in education in the years to come.

What began with just tailoring and mehendi design courses has today grown to include courses in fashion jewellery, paper crafts, hairstyling and much more, with 286 graduates just this year! We've also had the privilege of offering short-term employment opportunities to many graduates to complete orders for the products they make.

Others have chosen to get self-employed, supplement the income source in their home and most importantly grow confident in their skills and self worth.

Like many developing countries, India too faces an uphill climb with respect to equal opportunities for women. The girl child's life is threatened right from birth with sex selective abortions; she's at a higher risk of dropping out of education, being married off underage and giving birth early. Empowering women with skills for livelihood not only sets their children up for success, but reduces their vulnerability to social evils such as human trafficking.

This year, Vision Rescue was also able to launch a Culinary Training Institute in partnership with Open Gate International. The first batch of 17 students was carefully selected from our slum communities;

thev underwent rigorous training in the culinary arts and all 17 students were offered jobs by corporates in the hospitality industry across Mumbai.

We look forward to expanding these **Vocational Training** ventures to impact hundreds more in the days to come.

of victims of human trafficking are women and girls, says the National Crime Records Bureau of India. 3

> of women in India have completed five years of primary schooling and are literate. The remaining must make a living from skills that don't require literacy. 4

of graduates from vocational training courses in India find employment says the World Bank. 5

1. Sharma, Sanchita (2017, July 12) Seven million girls go missing in India every decade, say reports. Hindustan Times. Retrieved from https://www.hindustantimes.com índia-news/seven-million-girľs-go-missing-in-india-every-decade-say-reports/story-0F3wtuHCDS6Y0DhjM6MlYK.html

> 2. Walk Free Foundation (2018) Global Slavery Index 2018. Retrieved from https://www.globalslavervindex.org/2018/findings/country-studies/india

3. Mallapur, Chaitanya (2015, August 28) Minor girls and women chief targets in India's surging human-trafficking trade. Scroll.in. Retrieved from https://scroll.in/article/751298/minor-girls-and-women-chief-targets-in-indias-surging-human-trafficking-trade

4. Bansal, Samarth (2016, October 24) India falls short in female literacy. The Hindu, Retrieved from https://www.thehindu.com/data/India-falls-short-in-female-literacy/article16080505.ecc

5. World Bank (2019, March 26) India: Vocational Training Improvement Project. Retrieved from

http://documentsl.worldbank.org/curated/en/647351554483743816/pdf/India-Vocational-Training-Improvement-Project.pdf

2018-19 VOCATIONAL TRAINING **ACHIEVEMENTS**

youth from two slum communities joined our first batch of students at the newly launched Vision Rescue Culinary Training Institute in partnership with Open Gate International.

286 mothers, adolescent girls and young women completed our vocational training courses in tailoring (96), mehendi design (111), paper bag making (44) & bracelet making (39).



18 different types of products were created for sale by our graduates through the year:

Paper bag Beads Bracelet Leather bracelet **Leather Earrings** Watercolor postcard painting Canvas painting Alphabet painting Block printing Greeting cards Tote bags Jewelry pouches Carry bags Sling bags Coin pouches Flat pouches Jute bags Masks



products were made and sold in 2018-19 generating income for our vocational training graduates.

Bracelets - 6528 Paper bags - 1911 Burlap bags - 4146 School bags - 2000 Small Jewelry pouches - 1000

Greeting cards - 334 Bandanas - 1855







Notebooks

STORIES OF MOTHERS EMPOWERED



Sushma V.

From stay-athome mum to work-fromhome mum

Sushma is illiterate but she's determined to create a better life for her three daughters. The family lives in one of Mumbai's poorest slum communities and survives on the sole income of Sushma's husband, a daily wage labourer. Their daughter Mansi completed junior kindergarten at our Beacon Learning Centre and is now in senior kindergarten.

When Mansi first entered Vision Rescue, our community worker had met Sushma and encouraged her to join our tailoring course. Sushma was reluctant at first, but with time and counselling, she changed her mind.

Once she joined the course though, there was no holding her back. She and her family even caught Chicken Pox in the middle of the term, but she rejoined once she was well, and completed the course.

At the start of the academic year, we contacted our former tailoring graduates to make sling school bags for our students. Sushma was so excited about the project, that she purchased a second-hand sewing machine and stitched 192 bags for sale! What a journey from being a stay-at-home mum, to a work-from-home, financially independent mum.



Ramlamma Katigma

Ramlamma initially didn't believe in pre-primary education. She thought her 4-year-old son was too little for school, but when she saw her neighbours send their children to Vision Rescue's Beacon Learning Centre in her slum, she decided to explore the option too. Her son Akshat studied with us for a year and we helped enroll him in a formal private school at a discounted fee through our networks. Her daughter Joymercy Katigma is now in our junior kindergarten.

Empowered mothers mean empowered children

Seeing her children grow in learning inspired Ramlamma to join our tailoring course as well. She graduated with flying colours and even purchased a second-hand sewing machine through which she's begun to earn an income. This way she can work from home as well as look after Ajay, her youngest son aged two-and-a-half years. She was also instrumental in stitching sling-bags for all our beneficiaries this new school year!

35. Vision Rescue

HEALTHCARE Higher declaration of the first transfer of the first

2018-19 HEALTHCARE ACHIEVEMENTS

6379 parents and other community members reached through healthcare awareness programs.

n vulnerable slum communities plagued by poverty, access to quality healthcare is one of the foremost challenges most families f ace. And when a parent falls sick, it's usually the children who bear the brunt of it. They either take on the family chores, neglecting their education, or at worst, drop out of school and take up child labour to combat the mounting costs of healthcare.

As a majority of families in these slum communities are migrant labourers from rural India, they also often lack basic government documentation of identification and address proof. Without these vital papers, municipal hospitals are unable to provide

subsidised treatment,
thus pushing parents
towards treatment at
private hospitals with
expensive rates.
Additionally, a majority
of parents in slum
communities have low
literacy rates, making
them even more vulnerable
to manipulation and
exploitation at the hands
of private healthcare
centres.

All of these issues present hurdles to sustaining impoverished children in education. To counter this, our healthcare services for families of our children are two pronged. First, our medical and dental team conduct extensive awareness sessions throughout the year on topics key to the physical wellbeing of those living in impoverished and unhygienic slum communities,

such as handwashing techniques, HIV/AIDs awareness, seasonal diseases etc.

Second, our healthcare teams conduct numerous health camps through the year bringing expert doctors into slum communities so that families can be examined right outside their homes. Moreover, we also handhold unwell parents with either direct first-aid treatment by our team or referrals to our network of 28 hospitals, nonprofits and medical colleges for subsidised treatment followed by regular home visits and monitoring. These efforts ensure that the family's health issues don't disrupt children's right to education.

2227 parents attended awareness sessions on health and hygiene, 724 parents learnt about seasonal diseases and general health, & 927 parents learnt about the importance of timely immunisations at our awareness workshops.

966 parents benefit from general health checkup camps, 915 parents were examined at dental checkup camps, 261 community members underwent HIV/TB screening & 24 attended gynecology and cancer detection camps.

780 patients were treated at our network hospitals through referrals from our healthcare team, and 671 patients were administered first aid by our healthcare team.

150 community members attended the dental awareness programs.

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STORIES OF PARENTS EMPOWERED



Nasreen

A mother in distress

When little Juber first joined Vision Rescue's pre-primary classes in his slum community, he was regular to class. Out of the blue though, Juber began missing lessons. After consecutive absences, Juber's community worker visited his tin sheet home. He found Juber, his younger sister Alfiya and baby Ilma helping their mother Nasreen who was ill with tuberculosis. She was too weak to even walk Juber and Alfiya to our classrooms just a few streets away. Yet, she was looking after her home and family of five children with no medical help.

Nasreen was immediately referred to a hospital by our medical team and thus began her year-long series of treatments. While Nasreen got better, Juber began blossoming in class too. He gathered the guts to come to class, escorting Alfiya, even when their mother couldn't bring them in. His happiest moments in the academic year were winning two golds and one silver at the annual Sports Day!



Ibrahim & Nasreen

brahim and Nasreen, a construction labourer and homemaker, migrated from Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh over 15 years ago to find work in Mumbai. They settled into a stable house in the slum community of Shivajinagar and worked hard to educate their five children. However, the difficulties of life in a slum community led both Ibrahim and Nasreen into substance addictions - alcohol, tobacco and gutka for Ibrahim, just gutka for Nasreen. Much of their income was spent to maintain these cravings.

Treated, healed and freed

Their youngest child Sameer was enrolled into our senior kindergarten class and when his community worker visited their home, we realised that both Ibrahim and Nasreen were experiencing serious dental erosions due to their addictions. While we began extensive counselling for the couple towards deaddiction, they were both treated repeatedly by our dental team in the dental fan to stem and heal the erosions. Today. Nasreen has completely let go of gutka, while Ibrahim is still working his way out. As for Sameer, he dreams of becoming a doctor one day!

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OUR **WORK WITH** COMMUNITIES

COMMUNITY CENTRES

vision Rescue's vision is to empower people to find their purpose, enjoy their rights and live with dignity. For families and communities in impoverished slums that begins with equipping them with knowledge and tools for self empowerment that are specific to their situation. For this, we have established four stationary hubs within the slum communities of Kalwa, Mandala, Shivaji Nagar & Maharashtra Nagar called Vision Rescue Community Centres from where we reach out to the slum dwellers here.

At the Community Centres, our team of Community Workers led by Community Managers aims to raise leaders for community development from within the slums themselves. This year we launched the Community Champions Development Program, where key individuals are trained throughout the year to become agents of social change in their own society.

As parents themselves, these 'Community Champions' are experiencing firsthand the transformative power of education for their children. 287 of them now volunteer weekly with us as 'Champions' that advocate for education, healthcare, nutrition and community development among their own people. Besides CCDP, our Community Centres within each slum community are home to weekly awareness workshops and focus group meetings that teach participants about tackling the social issues they face on a day-to-day basis.

And lastly, each Community Centre works to network extensively with the other nonprofits, government bodies and businesses operating within the area, so that we can share our best practices, capitalise on each others' strengths and together uplift communities into self empowerment.

287 parents were chosen as 'Community Champions' and enrolled into the yearlong Community Champions **Development Program where** they are trained each month on a pertinent social issue followed by a field visit to the relevant community development body such as police stations, child rights committee etc.

4000 cooked food packets were distributed to 2000 families in partnership with **Robinhood Army volunteers** on the occasion of Zomato's 10th anniversary.

8 organisations partnered with Vision Rescue to create solutions to help children in slum communities commute to their local schools. They are Bombay Teen Challenge, Magic Bus, Doorstep, Samaj Ratna Shivaji Shendage Vidyalay, Mumbai Smile, Annabhau Sathe Pratishthan and Deonar Bus Depot.

2018-19 **COMMUNITY CENTRES ACHIEVEMENTS**

1396+ pa rents attended awareness workshops on topics such as child rights, child marriage, child abuse, the importance of education, opening bank accounts, managing personal finances, Self Help Groups, small-scale business entrepreneaurship, deaddiction and family planning.

8710+ sanitary napkins have been sold through newly launched sanitary pad vending machines inside 4 slum communities.

> 1026 pairs of shoes were gifted to our children and their family members on World Shoe Day by INC5.

72 participants benefit from workshops on becoming nursing assistants conducted in partnership with I-Care nonprofit, 53 youngsters benefit from a program on youth development conducted in partnership with Yova nonprofit & 45 women enrolled for free computer lessons with network nonprofit Pratham.

STORY OF COMMUNITY MEMBER EMPOWERED

Janatara Shaikh 25 years

From victim to victor



anatara was 17 when she was forced to marry Nazrul Shaikh, who is 18 years her senior. Her father was mired in financial troubles, and hence gave Janatara away in marriage to Nazrul. Nazrul already had a wife and children from an earlier marriage, and after his wedding with Janatara, he began to split his time and resources between his two households. Janatara moved into a makeshift hutment in the slum community of Kalwa as a homemaker and was at the mercy of Nazrul's whims and fancies. Nazrul gave her money erratically to survive and at times physically abused her.

Soon enough Janatara was pregnant with Murtaza Shaikh. When Murtaza was three and a half years old, his brother Sahil was born. Janatara somehow managed to keep her family afloat. Their nutrition was poor and their home was often an unhygienic mess.

Despite these difficulties though, Janatara was a force to reckon with in her slum community. She was an influential conversationalist and when our community workers met her in early 2017, she was an ideal candidate to become a Vision Rescue Community Champion. This meant that Janatara would be an evangelist for education, nutrition and healthcare in her slum community.

Janatara actively took on the new role, beginning by admitting her eldest son Murtaza to our Senior Kindergarten classes, and later Sahil to our junior kindergarten. She adopted hygienic practices at home and began sharing the same with her neighbours. Every time we held a health camp or an awareness workshop or education drive in her community, Janatara would be the first to mobilise her neighbourhood to join.

Janatara was so effective in her work that she was soon promoted to a community intern at Vision Rescue! Today, she's a proud mother of three who is also respected and honoured in her community for her service to uplift them.



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2018-19 SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

he School Support Program aims to equip and empower municipal schools surrounding our slum communities with the best practices in education so that children from impoverished backgrounds can sustain in their studies.

We began this project with 233 children who were handpicked by the partner schools for immediate, targeted intervention as their attendance was low enough to border on dropping out. With these children, we launched weekly sports lessons in self defence and football after classes, accompanied with life skill programs, all tailor-made to incentivise education for them.

The results were remarkable: 147 of these near-drop out children raised their annual attendance to above 60 percent! Many of the students went on to complete their Green Belt and Orange Belt tests, and they've now become the fore-runners in their classrooms.

In the days to come we aim to expand this School Support Program to include more sports, resource building initiatives, parent engagement sessions and teacher training programs to as many municipal schools near our slum communities as possible, so that we can empower thousands more impoverished children in these schools to stick with their education.

233 children at 5 BMC & TMC schools are learning self defence or football through Vision Rescue's School Support Program.

133 children attended a 3-day martial arts camp and 52 participated in a self defense seminar.

18 students completed Green Belt tests and 6 students completed Orange Belt tests.

63 teachers were trained by Vision Rescue's staff to find solutions on reducing student drop-out rates

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CASE **STORY**

Samreen S. 13 years

In defense of education



Samreen is one of seven children and she studies with four of her siblings at a BMC school that partners with Vision Rescue. Her father is an electrician and her mother is a homemaker. Samreen was a regular at our self defense course, until one day she dropped out of school altogether. Her family was lean on money and Samreen's education was sacrificed as a result.

Our coaches met with her family to understand the situation better. They convinced Samreen's parents to send her back to school, and they even helped her catch up with the self defense lessons that she had missed. Samreen worked hard and soon she was ready to give her Green Belt test with the o ther students. She passed the test, and now wants to prepare for the Black Belt test! Samreen hopes to continue and complete her education, as well as prepare for more competitive tournaments in martial arts.

Without the targeted and timely intervention into Samreen's life, she may have joined the growing numbers of dropout teenage girls in her community.



Samreen's family was lean on money and her education was temporarily sacrificed as a result.

47. Vision Rescue

MENTAL HEALTH

ndia has 8 million

according to The

campaigns across

Global Slavery Index

(2018). We run advocacy

colleges and corporates

raising social consciousness

trafficking in India.We are also

the India hosts for the annual, global Walk for Freedom - the

the nonprofit A21 across 450

about the reality of human

slavery such as bonded labour, sex trafficking and forced marriage,

THE MOVEMENT INDIA

ndia is the most depressed country in the world, with 1 in 4 Indians struggling with mental health challenges, according to The World Health Organisation (2017). We break the silence around this taboo topic at The Hangout - a fun, large-group engagement session for colleges and corporates that kick

starts crucial conversations about mental health. We equip ordinary citizens tobe effective firstresponders to those battling mental health in their immediate community at Phases II & III of The Hangout.



OUR WORK

he Movement India (TMI) is a social impact team that works through advocacy, volunteering and talent development to meet needs in the areas of human trafficking, mental health and education for poor income communities.



EDUCATION



unschooled children to education opportunities through Mission Admission a III-Phase project featuring data collection drives, school admission campaigns and

60,00,000 school-age

children in India are out of

of them from slum

communities across

our metropolitan cities.

We connect urban-poor,

school right now, a majority

learning activities in slums. We reduce drop-out rates among at-risk children through education support programs for lowincome schools near slums.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING citizens caught in forms of modern-day



TALENT DEVELOPMENT

MI offers Talent Development sessions to build life skills such as teamwork, corporate communications, leadership to small and large groups. We also host the Boot Camp a one-day, immersive leadership training program for volunteers.



49. Vision Rescue

2018-19 ACHIEVEMENTS

760+ youth were trained on mental health and de-stigmatizing depression through The Hangout program at 6 colleges.

1440 citizens were reached through advocacy sessions about human trafficking across institutions in Chennai and Mumbai.

1450+ participated in the second India edition of the global Walk for Freedom which was launched at 5 locations in India this year.

60 volunteers from Mumbai's colleges invested 800 hours surveying the slum community of Mandala to find children who were out of school, as part of Mission Admission Phase I. 34 volunteers invested 698 hours conducting Admission Drives, Summer Camps, Health Camps and Children's Day programs for children from slum communities as part of Phase II & III of Mission Admission.

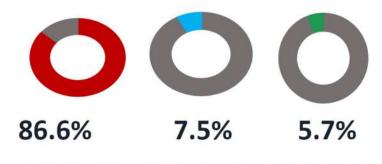
10 Talent Development workshops were conducted for 261 participants in Mumbai and Chennai.

246 children in Mandala are now enrolled at Vision Rescue's newly launched Beacon Learning Centre as a result of the Mission



ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW

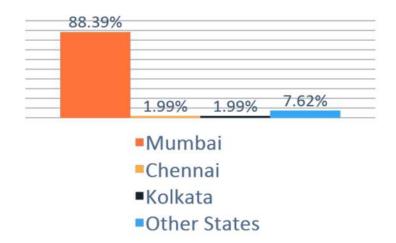
ANNUAL EXPENSES



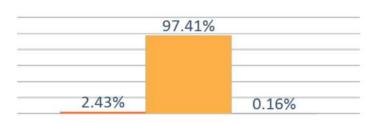
Establishment Exp - 46.9L Fundraising Exp - 35.6L

Operational Exp - 536L

COMMUNITY INTERVENTION - LOCATION WISE



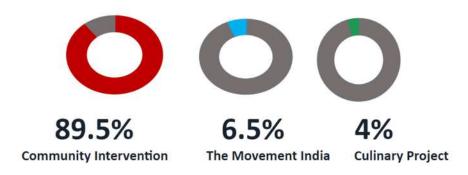
OVERALL INCOME



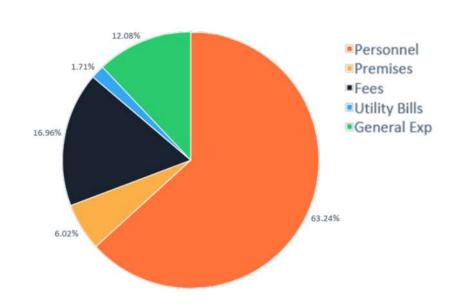
Carried Forward from Previous Year - 17.4 L

- Income During Year 697 L
- ■Bank Interest 1.13 L

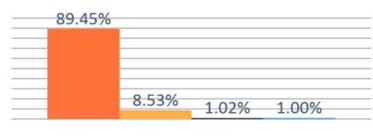
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES



ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES

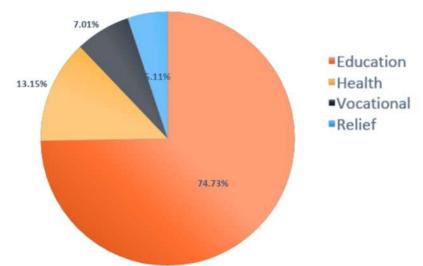


OVERALL EXPENSES

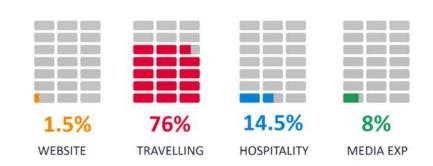


- Annual Exp 619 L
- Plant & Equipments 59 L
- ■Deposits 7 L
- Loans & Advances 6.9 L

COMMUNITY INTERVENTION



FUNDRAISING EXPENSES



53. Vision Rescue