

ANNUAL REPORT

2023-24



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FOUNDER'S NOTE

Biju Thampy |
Founder - Vision Rescue

Forward

Twenty years ago, when I first met a little girl on the streets of Mumbai - hungry, afraid, and stripped of her dignity - I didn't know that moment would change the direction of my life. I had come from a small town in Kerala, and what I saw at that traffic signal was something I could neither understand nor ignore. That brief encounter left me with one thought that still guides us today: we may not be able to change the whole world, but we can do something.

That "something" began humbly at Mahim railway station in 2004, when my wife Secu and I, along with a couple of young volunteers, shared vada pav with six children. Over time, that small act of compassion grew into a movement - one that today reaches thousands of children and families across Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Delhi, helping them reclaim their dignity through education, healthcare, and empowerment.

As we celebrate Vision Rescue's twentieth year, my heart is filled with gratitude. This journey has not been easy. It has been marked by challenges, learning, and constant reinvention. But through it all, one thing has never changed: the unwavering love, prayers, and generous support of people like you, who have believed in our mission of freeing children from all forms of exploitation by engaging and sustaining them in education.

From serving meals at a railway platform to starting Beacon Learning Centres and Community Case Management programs, every step of this journey has been about meeting people where they are - on the streets, in their homes, in their struggles - and helping them move toward hope.

Our mobile classrooms became safe spaces for learning. Our medical and dental vans reached families who could not easily visit a doctor or dentist.

We learned that helping a child stay in school means strengthening the family that surrounds them. So we expanded our work to empower parents, especially mothers, through livelihood training, counselling, and health camps, ensuring that dignity and stability begins at home. Today, through Family Case Plans, we walk alongside over a thousand families every year, helping them break cycles of poverty and vulnerability.

Alongside this, Advocacy and Capacity Building Team (The Movement India) continues to grow as a platform for action; mobilizing volunteers,

corporates, and colleges to use their skills to bridge the gap between those who have the resources and those who have the need. It is a reminder that transformation is never the work of one person or one organization—it's a shared journey powered by compassion and collaboration.

As I look back on these two decades, I see not just milestones, but lives transformed: children who once walked in the streets aimlessly, now walking into schools with confidence; mothers who once struggled to feed their families now earning their own income; communities that once felt invisible now taking ownership of their future.

And yet, even as we celebrate, we remain deeply aware of the work that lies ahead. In the slum communities where Vision Rescue serves, too many children still go to bed hungry, too many families still live without access to basic sanitation, and too many young lives still face the risk of exploitation. Our mission is far from over.

As we step into the next decade, our commitment is to serve even more, to strengthen families, to expand partnerships, and to ensure that every child we reach can truly live with dignity.

Thank you for standing with us through every season of this journey, for believing, for giving and for doing what you could at the time. Here's inviting you once again to be part of this story as we keep reaching out, until every child is able to pursue their purpose in life and live with dignity.

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OUR VISION

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

OUR MISSION

To 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

CHILD | FAMILY | COMMUNITY

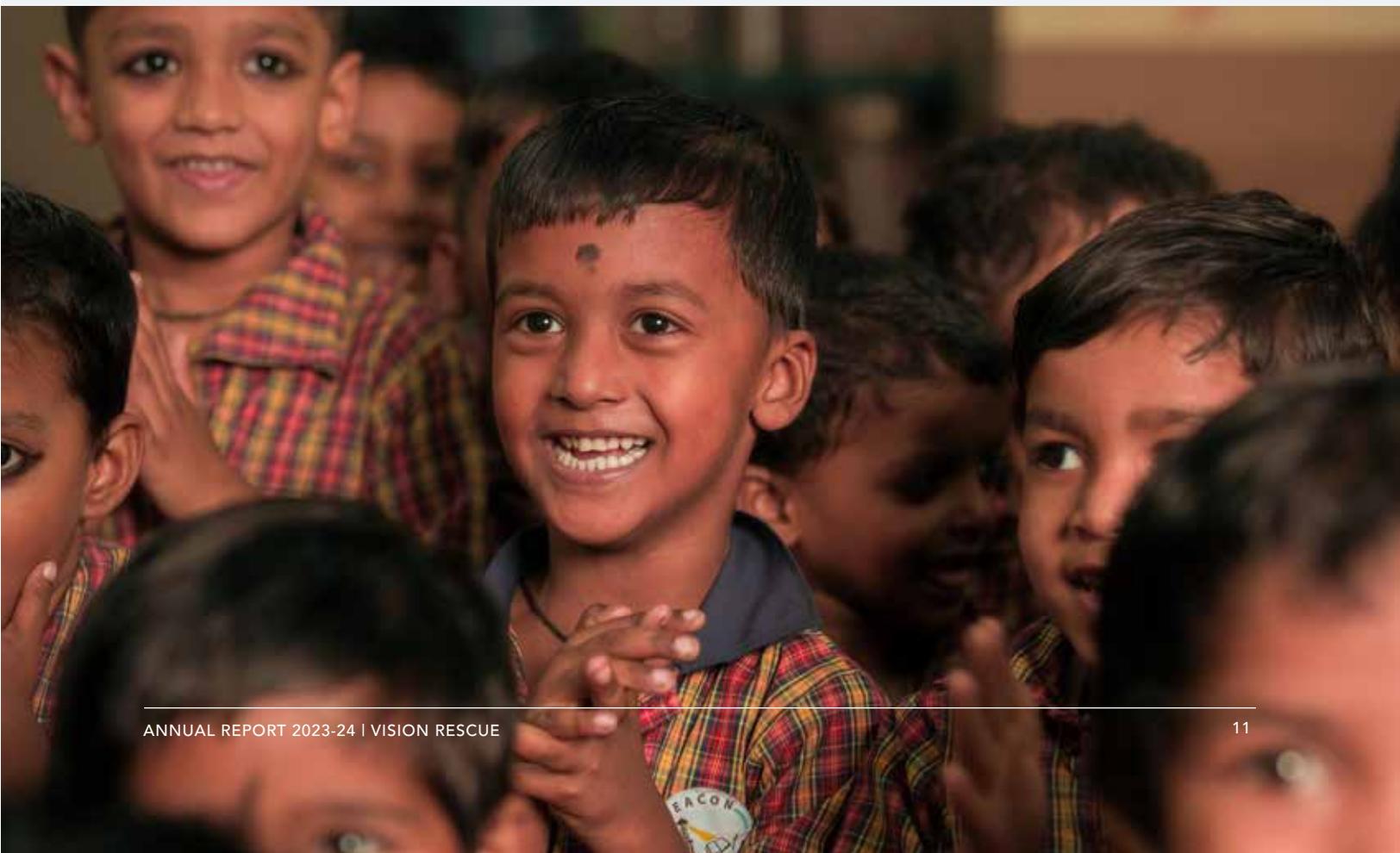


To free children from all forms of exploitation, we work alongside children, their families, and their communities, with the ultimate goal of engaging and sustaining the child in education. To engage children in education, Vision Rescue runs a variety of programs that provide non-formal learning opportunities for those living in urban slum communities across

Mumbai, Kolkata, and Chennai. These include community-based learning centers such as Beacon Learning Centres (BLC), the Mobile Bus Program, and Tuition Centres. Along with education, children also receive nutritious midday meals and bi-annual healthcare services. To help children remain in education, Vision Rescue partners closely with families through

a Case Management model. This begins with assessing risk factors such as unstable income, lack of employable skills, lack of awareness of government welfare initiatives, lack of identification documents, domestic violence, substance abuse etc. Families are then stratified using the Child Status Index (CSI) and guided to set sustainable goals that address these challenges. Support includes, though not limited to, access to Skill Development and Livelihood Training, community awareness sessions, and medical and dental care. By tackling barriers such as financial hardship, low awareness, and poor health, families are empowered to create an environment where children can pursue education freely. At the community level, Vision Rescue drives transformation through Community Centres located within slum neighbourhoods. The Community Champions Development Program

trains volunteer parents from within the community to become advocates for change. Having seen the impact of education in their own children's lives, these "Community Champions" now promote education, healthcare, nutrition, and development across their neighbourhoods. In addition, our School Support and Sports Programs encourage children to continue their education in nearby municipal schools, using sports as a tool to inspire learning and growth. Finally, through the Advocacy and Capacity Building Program, Vision Rescue connects the "need abundance" in urban poor communities with the "skill abundance" in colleges and corporates across India's megacities. Through mobilising volunteers, this program strengthens support in areas such as education, mental health, and anti-human trafficking initiatives in low-income communities.





● DELHI

● KOLKATA

MUMBAI ●

● CHENNAI



OUR **IMPACT** IN 2023-24

CHILD

EDUCATION



1,802

STUDENTS
ENROLLED

A total of 1,802 students were enrolled in Vision Rescue's educational program across **Mumbai (1,217)**, **Chennai (346)** and **Kolkata (239)**.

764 students transitioned from community based learning centers and bus program, to **formal schools** within the communities.

68 children were enrolled into formal schools as a result of family case management.

NUTRITION



2,07,498

MEALS PROVIDED

2,07,498 meals were provided to the children in Vision Rescue's care at the Beacon Learning Centres in Mumbai and on the Bus in Kolkata.



HEALTHCARE



1,815

**CHILDREN
BENEFITTED FROM
MEDICAL CARE**

1,815 children received healthcare benefits across **BLC (1,128), SSP (496), Sports (25)** and **tuition classes (166)**.

27.6% of BLC children were identified as **Malnourished** during health assessments.

7,267

**CHILDREN
BENEFITTED FROM
DENTAL CARE**

7267 children received dental care across **BLC (1,087), SSP (6,154)** and **Sports (26)**

408 children benefited from the **fluoridation** program.

6,462 children received **awareness** across BLC (772), SSP (5,583) and rural intervention in Murbad village (107).

Dental treatment camps were also organized at Mankhurd Children's Home (88), Dongri Remand Home (185), Matunga Remand Home (161), Bhiwandi Juvenile Home (52) and Murbad village (98).



FAMILY

CASE MANAGEMENT



1,837

FAMILIES BENEFITTED
FROM CASE
MANAGEMENT

1,837 families have been cared for under our Case Management system: **176** of these are at **High Risk**, **613** of these cases are at **Medium Risk**, and **1,048** are at **Low Risk** according to the Child Status Index evaluation.

97 of the **High-Risk** families progressed to **Medium** or **Low Risk**, and **45** of the **Medium Risk** children progressed to **Low Risk**.



SKILL DEVELOPMENT & LIVELIHOOD TRAINING



1,053

RECEIVED SKILLS
TRAINING

1,053 women graduated from the various skills-training courses (tailoring, mehendi, beauty & haircare, spoken english, computer classes and culinary) and workshops in **Mumbai (433)** and **Kolkata (620)**.

Of the 112 students who graduated from the **Beautician & Hair Care**, **56 work independently** and take personal orders. Their monthly earnings range from Rs.4,000 to Rs.5,000. However, during festive seasons, women earn around Rs. 9,000 to Rs. 10,000 per day.

Vision Rescue **facilitated** the activities of **6 Self-Help Groups (SHGs)** across four slum communities in Mumbai with a combined membership of **84 dedicated women**. Over **11,655 products** were sold by SHGs including bags, paper bags, notebooks, bracelets, earrings, tote bags, thank-you cards and tea coasters.



COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



177

ACTIVE COMMUNITY
CHAMPIONS

177 active Community Champions fervently advocate for education, healthcare, nutrition, and overall community progress within their neighbourhood.

58 Community Champions conducted **602 Focus Group Meetings**, raising awareness about important social issues to an audience of over **7,774 beneficiaries** in four slum communities.





8,455

**INDIVIDUALS
BENEFITTED FROM
MEDICAL AND DENTAL
CAMPS**

COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE

173 general medical camps were held in Mumbai (23), Kolkata (139) and Chennai (11), benefitting **8,284 individuals** in Mumbai (776), Kolkata (6,977) and Chennai (531).

76 medical awareness programs were held in Mumbai (35), Kolkata (16) and Chennai (25) benefitting **2,704 individuals** in Mumbai (1,385), Kolkata (555) and Chennai (764).

171 benefitted from dental treatment camps organised at St Anthony's Home, Nagpada and Airoli Prem Daan.



1,105

**STUDENTS ENROLLED
IN SCHOOL SUPPORT
PROGRAM**

SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM & SPORTS TRAINING

From **20 Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) schools**, 1,105 students directly benefitted through life-skills training and sports coaching in football (369), self-defense (445) and kabaddi (291).

The School Support Program indirectly benefitted **12,474 students and staff** of BMC schools.



112

**STUDENTS
RECEIVED SPORTS
TRAINING**

112 students received sports training in **semi-professional football (87)** and **cricket (25)**. These included boys (73) and girls (39).



ADVOCACY & CAPACITY BUILDING



5,259
VOLUNTEERS
ENGAGED



21,357
VOLUNTEERING
HOURS SERVED



60,994
ADVOCACY
PARTICIPANTS
REACHED



18,498
BENEFICIARIES
IMPACTED



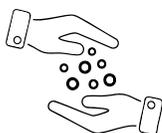
315+
COLLEGES |
BUSINESSES |
NONPROFITS
PARTNERED



384
PRESS
MENTIONS
REACHED



66,450,745
VIEWERSHIP



₹ 3,82,297
IN-KIND
RESOURCES
FACILITATED



₹ 96,960
SALES
FACILITATED



₹ 1,60,528
DONATIONS
FACILITATED

(All resources were directly contributed by program participants to partner NGOs.)

I: OUR WORK WITH CHILDREN

EDUCATION

Education is a fundamental human right, and Vision Rescue works with urban slum communities to provide it. We believe education can break the cycle of poverty and bring lasting change. Our programs include:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Community-based learning centres | Pre-primary (3-5 years) | Mumbai, Kolkata | Nurtures through play-based learning, language development, and social interaction. |
| | Primary (6-8 years) | | Structured curriculum fostering academic preparedness, creativity, and curiosity. |
| Mobile Bus Program | 5-13 years | Kolkata | Provides non-formal education in underserved areas where learning centres can't be set up. Mobile classrooms offer play-based learning and a nutritious meal. |
| Tuition Centres | 6-14 years | Chennai | Provides extra academic support for children already enrolled in public or private schools. |



**Back
on Track**



Radha*, a mother of 3 and the only earning member of her family, feared for her 10-year-old son, Dilip*. While his siblings attended school, Dilip was surrounded by bad company and skipped classes, often wandering off to the nearby dumping ground. Radha dreamed of a different story for her son, one filled with hope and dignity. In June 2022, everything changed when Dilip joined BLC through Vision Rescue. For the first time, he felt cared for and began to attend classes regularly. Last year, he completed Grade II and moved to formal school to continue his education.



NUTRITION

Every child in our BLC and Bus Program takes home a hearty lunch, hygienically prepared and nutritionally balanced to ensure that children receive a daily, rich nutritious meal.



HEALTHCARE

Vision Rescue offers six essential healthcare services for underprivileged children who attend BLC.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---|
| Health Assessment for children | Twice a year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies underweight or malnourished children and provides treatment for severely malnourished children. • Provided through partner local hospitals. |
| Paediatric Screening | Once a year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides early detection and treatment of diseases through community camps. • Provided by paediatricians from partner local hospitals. |
| Immunization | Once a year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccination camps offer required vaccinations and missed vaccinations. • Provided in partnership with local Public Health Centres. |
| Dental Screening | Twice a year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral screenings provide early detection and treatment of oral diseases • Provided through Vision Rescue's dental van and in partnership with local hospitals. |
| Dental Fluoridation | Twice a year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental fluoridation promoting good oral hygiene in children is conducted twice a year. • Collaborates with dental colleges and NGOs for enhanced services. |
| Medical and Dental Awareness | Multiple times | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness sessions conducted in classrooms teaching the importance of personal hygiene, brushing techniques, good dietary habits and the importance of physical activity. |



Harika's Journey to Health

Four-year-old Harika* walked into BLC for the very first time, hand in hand with her mother. She is a cheerful and enthusiastic learner who actively participates in class. However, during her initial health assessment at BLC, she was diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Thanks to our medical team's support, now every meal at home is a colorful plate filled with nutritious foods. Harika loves to snack on healthy laddus, and her health is improving.





II: OUR WORK WITH FAMILIES

CASE MANAGEMENT

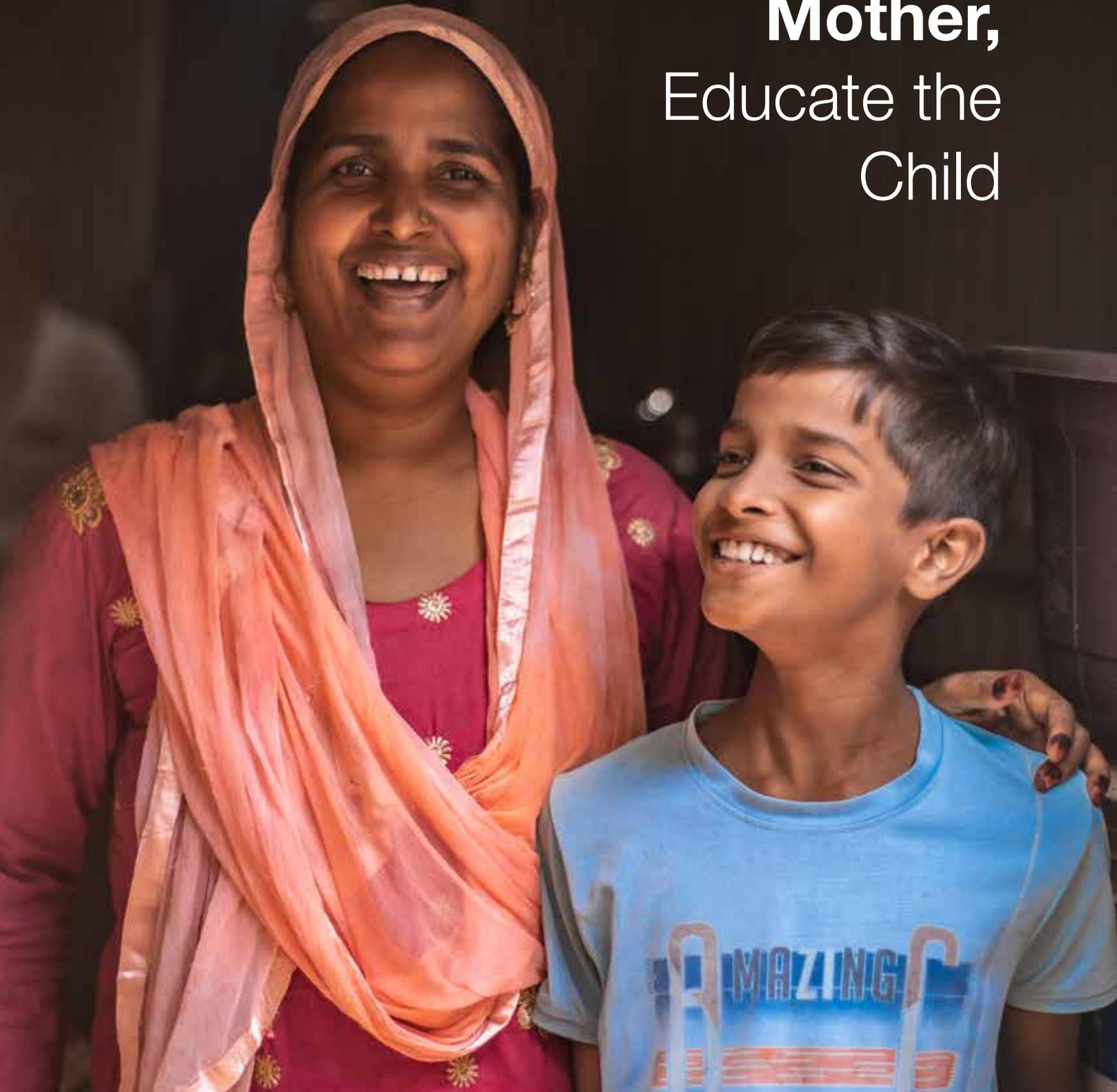
Our work

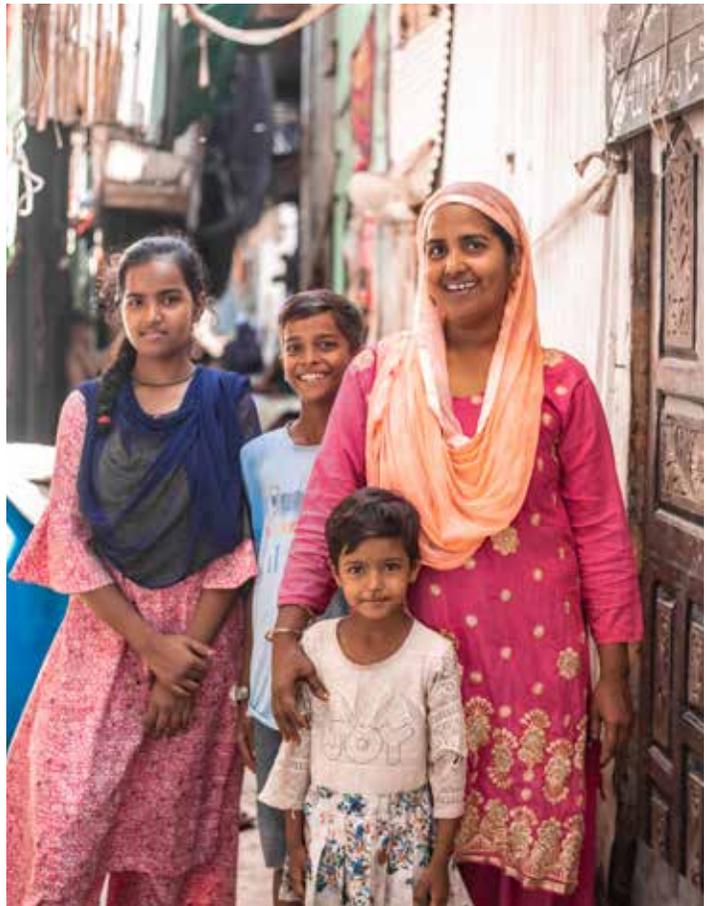
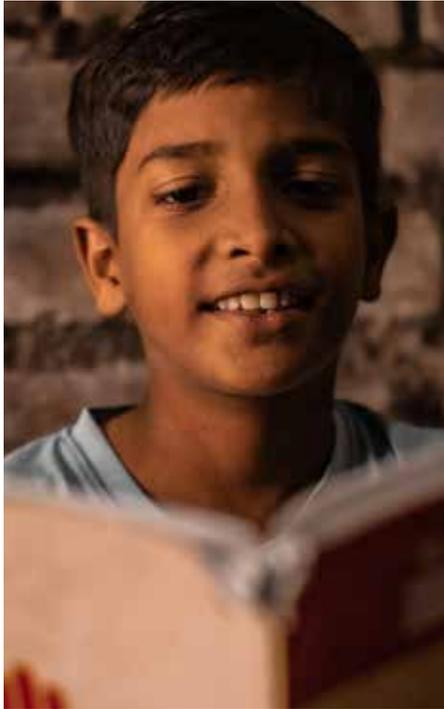
The Case Management model provides case counselling through community Case Officers (CO) to families and the broader community, aimed to engage and sustain the child in education. Currently, this program is operational in Mumbai.

- Every child and his/her respective family in our care is assigned a dedicated CO.
- During the initial home visit, the CO assesses risk factors to determine the Child Status Index (CSI). Based on this assessment, families are categorized as Low, Medium, or High Risk.
- COs and families work together to create a Family Case Plan to lower risk levels through case counselling, improved living conditions, access to health services and awareness on government welfare programs.



**Empower the
Mother,
Educate the
Child**





Mansi* was weighed down by worry after moving to Mumbai to live separately from her husband. She dreamed of a better life for her four children. In 2021, our CO visited her neighborhood, guiding her to enroll two of her children in BLC and her eldest in a nearby BMC school. The CO also assisted her in securing essential documents and opening a Sukanya Samrudhhi Yojna account for Farah. With Vision Rescue's support, Mansi's family found stability to begin a new journey.



A Ray of Hope in Hardship

Ayaan* is the third child from his family to join BLC. When his father was diagnosed with bone tuberculosis and couldn't work for two years, his mother became the sole breadwinner. In the slum communities, access to quality healthcare is a constant struggle. But thanks to your generosity, our CO's and our medical team were able to provide the blood needed for his father's treatment, lifting a heavy burden from the family.



SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND LIVELIHOOD TRAINING

Our work

The Skill Development and Livelihood (SD&L) Training program empowers mothers, adolescent sisters and other interested community members with skills to earn a livelihood. These courses enable women to achieve financial independence and secure their children's education. Participants often form Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to take on business ventures, contributing to their economic stability.



Tailoring



Mehendi



Culinary



**Beautician
& Hair
Care**



**Short
Workshops**



Spoken English



Computer

Additionally, in collaboration with Open Gate International, Vision Rescue's Culinary Training Institute (VRCTI) offers Bakery and Culinary courses with internships at venues like Love & Cheesecake and Theobroma providing hands-on experience and industry exposure. VRCTI partners with hotels and cloud kitchens, providing real-world opportunities for students from marginalized communities.





A Single Mother's Ticket to Empowerment



Heena*, married at 19, faced abuse from in-laws and abandonment by her husband. She fled with her daughter to her brother's home in one of the Mumbai slum communities where Vision Rescue operates. Her daughter joined BLC, and Heena enrolled in our three-month Beautician & Haircare Course. She excelled, quickly mastering facial, manicure, and pedicure skills. She soon gained financial independence by gaining clients from the neighbourhood.

III: OUR WORK WITH COMMUNITIES

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Our work

Vision Rescue empowers individuals in impoverished slums to find their purpose, enjoy their rights, and live with dignity. We provide awareness camps and self-empowerment tools through our Community Service Centres in four slums: Kalwa, Mandala, Shivaji Nagar, and Maharashtra Nagar. Our Community Champions Development Program (CCDP) plays a pivotal role in this mission by selecting leaders from within these communities. These 'Community Champions,' many of whom are parents, have seen how education has improved their children's lives. Today, **177** active Champions fervently advocate for education, healthcare, nutrition, and overall community progress within their neighbourhood.



HEALTHCARE FOR ADULTS

Our work

Accessing quality healthcare is a major challenge in urban slum communities. Many families lack government documentation due to migration, making it difficult to access subsidised healthcare and forcing them to rely on more expensive private healthcare options. Low literacy rates further increase vulnerability to misinformation and exploitation.

Vision Rescue tackles these issues through specific interventions like medical camps and community empowerment through awareness programs to create a healthier future.

1. Medical Camps

In 2023-24, we conducted general medical camps on the following topics - cancer detection camp, eye screening camp and HIV detection camp.

2. Antenatal Care (ANC)

Antenatal care was provided for mothers from two of the four urban slum communities in Mumbai that have limited access to healthcare services and in five locations in Chennai. 121 pregnant women were supported with regular ANC services over the past year.

3. Dental Health Camp:

We collaborate with educational institutions and hospitals to offer dental care and promote oral health awareness among families.

4. Awareness Programs:

Medical and dental awareness programs were conducted through the course of the year on seasonal diseases and other topics tailored to each community's needs. Topics included good oral & personal hygiene, menstrual hygiene, deworming, pneumonia, maternal health & breastfeeding, harmful effects of smoking & chewing tobacco, various kinds of cancer, HIV, diabetes and hypertension, nutrition, etc.



SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM

Our work

The School Support Program (SSP) is designed for students aged 10-14 at risk of dropping out of formal education. Throughout the academic year, SSP follows up with students, parents and teachers to ensure consistent attendance in school and engagement in education through its sports program in football, self-defence and kabaddi. In addition, students are taught life skills like interpersonal relationships, stress management, effective communication, critical thinking, decision-making and problem solving and emotion management. To outwork the SSP, Vision Rescue has partnered with 20 municipal schools in Shivajinagar, Cheetah camp, Thurbe and Thane.



The Knock that **Changed** **Everything**



Rashid* lives near Mumbai's Deonar dumping ground. In 2022, he was enrolled in BLC. With the help of our dedicated teachers, he went from being a quiet child to an enthusiastic learner. Meanwhile, Rashid's mother received vocational training in making paper bags and now earns an income by selling them. Soon after, she became our Community Champion and promoted education, healthcare and nutrition for all children in her slum community.



SPORTS

Our work

Vision Rescue Sports Club offers football and cricket training to students from the Vision Rescue community and the School Support Program (SSP). The Club focuses on daily practice, life skills, and career guidance, providing opportunities for members in semi-pro and pro matches, tournaments, and leagues. Exceptionally talented students are provided the opportunity to advance to higher-level clubs like the Mumbai District Football Association (MDFA), All India Football Federation (AIFF), or Western India Football Association (WIFA).

In addition to sports activities, the program emphasises non-sports activities like:

- Mental health awareness
- Health-related sessions

Education is prioritised, and dropouts due to sports involvement are actively discouraged.



1%
**OF VICTIMS
ARE EVER
RESCUED**

**SLAVERY
HAPPENS
IN EVERY
PART OF THE
WORLD.**

**HUMAN
TRAFFICING:
AN ESTIMATED
\$150.2 BILLION
USD ANNUALLY.**

**NO ONE
IS
SAFE**

**THERE ARE
MILLIONS
OF SLAVES
IN THE
WORLD
TODAY.**

**WALK
FOR
FREEDOM**

**WALK
FOR
FREEDOM**

ADVOCACY & CAPACITY BUILDING TEAM (THE MOVEMENT INDIA)

OUR WORK

Vision Rescue's Advocacy & Capacity Building Team - The Movement India (TMI) - is a social impact team that works through volunteering, resource building, talent development and advocacy to meet needs in the areas of education, mental health and human trafficking.

I:VOLUNTEERING, RESOURCE BUILDING & TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Creating opportunities for anyone, anywhere to serve the needy with their time, resources and talents. Building volunteer talent and staff capacity for NGOs through targeted training services.

VOLUNTEERING

Advocacy and Capacity Building Team (TMI) deployed over 5,269 volunteers to power the operations of multiple NGOs including Vision Rescue, as well as to conduct anti-human trafficking advocacy activities across India. This includes serving at 'Project Shiksha' – our initiative to help the women, youth & children of the Afghan refugee community in Delhi with education, livelihood skills and more. Among the partner NGOs are a host of educational and anti-human trafficking NGOs working to prevent the exploitation of children from vulnerable communities. 17,611 beneficiaries were reached through these direct volunteering initiatives.

Volunteers also hosted and organised the annual 'Walk for Freedom' events at 107 locations nationwide, to raise awareness about the reality of human trafficking. In addition, they conducted numerous advocacy activities such as human-chains, street-plays, poster-making, debates etc within college campuses and community locations to awaken public consciousness to the issue.

Volunteers fulfilled a variety of roles and opportunities such as:

- **Spoken English & Spoken Hindi Tutors**
- **Remedial Classes (Math, Science, etc)**
- **Teaching Associates**
- **Medical & Dental Camps**
- **Counselling Services**
- **Health Assessments & Immunisation Camps**
- **Summer Camps & Sports Days**
- **Community Surveys**
- **Mission Admission**

- **Data Entry**
- **Adult Literacy Curriculum**
- **Digital Asset Content Creation**
- **Life Skills Trainings**
- **Dance, Music, Candle Making & Grooming Workshops**
- **Tree Plantation & Other Donation Drives**
- **Social Media Advocacy**
- **Mental Health Advocacy**
- **Anti-trafficking Advocacy Activities**
- **'Walk for Freedom' Hosts & Organisers**

RESOURCE BUILDING

Rs. 3,82,297 worth of resources such as stationery, t-shirts, mosquito nets, caps, sanitary napkins, books, sewing machines, umbrellas etc were provided by college and corporate communities for the benefit of multiple NGOs, including Vision Rescue. 511 beneficiaries were reached through the same. In addition, Self Help Group/s (SHG) from slum communities in Mumbai were given the opportunity to showcase and sell products made by them at college and corporate campuses, leading to Rs. 96,960 worth of sales. Rs. 160,528 was raised through donation drives, with all contributions made directly by volunteers to our partner NGOs.



TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Subject-matter experts volunteered their time and skills to facilitate workshops on teacher training, mental health (in partnership with MPowerMinds NGO), interview skills, communication skills and other key topics benefiting 376 staff and beneficiaries of Vision Rescue, other NGOs and shelter homes, amounting to 752 learning hours.

Partner non-profits and government bodies served through Volunteering, Resource Building & Talent Development include:

- **Aftertaste Foundation, Mumbai**
- **Bethesda Life Centre, Goa**
- **Child Welfare Committee, Delhi**
- **Cross Culture, Kolkata**
- **David Sassoon Children’s Home, Mumbai**
- **Eco Revive, Mumbai**
- **First Light Foundation, Mumbai**
- **iSanctuary, Mumbai**
- **Jamghat NGO, Delhi**
- **Kshamata Foundation, Thane**
- **Light House Disha, Siliguri**
- **Movement Global Foundation, Mumbai**
- **Oasis, Mumbai**
- **Prerana, Mumbai**
- **Rescue Foundation, Mumbai**
- **Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust, Mumbai**
- **RHEADS, Chittoor**
- **Sahaara Charitable Trust, Navi Mumbai**
- **Sahasee Embers Charitable Trust, Turbhe**
- **Shiksha Rath, Delhi**
- **Trailblazers, Hyderabad**
- **Ujjain Education Society, Delhi**
- **Umerkhadi Children’s Home, Mumbai**



VOLUNTEER SUCCESS STORIES

Tarun Kotaki's story

Tarun was a participant at a corporate awareness session on Anti-Human Trafficking conducted by a partner NGO in Hyderabad, 'My Choices Foundation'. Deeply moved after the session, Tarun - an automobile engineer - offered to volunteer to teach Math to survivors of trafficking. Every weekend, he travelled 50 kms to take a total 415 hours of tuition for the survivors of trafficking and abuse being rehabilitated at Trailblazers NGO shelter home. He says,



If the child cannot reach education, education should reach the child. I could see so many ambitions in the children's eyes. They aspire to reach beyond their past, and it was my honour to work with the team at Trailblazers to help them achieve their dreams."

Naomi Jawaharlal's story

Naomi Jawaharlal, a student from Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science, Goa, volunteered with NGO Vision Rescue, using her skills as a child counsellor. During her hours here, she not only counselled children and conducted group activities with them, but also conducted parenting workshops, thus helping both parents and children improve their mental fortitude, and build resilience. She says,



I have had the opportunity to work with teachers to train them about child development, and with the children here. I'm so happy that I got the opportunity to build close relationships with them."



II: ADVOCACY

Raising awareness among urban colleges and corporates about key social issues and empowering them to take concrete action within their communities.

A: ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING CLUBS (AHTC) INAUGURATIONS

AHTCs exist to end human slavery by mobilising youth initiatives. The AHTCs focus is to prevent the issue of human trafficking through periodic awareness and volunteering activities organised by students through the course of the academic year. AHTCs were opened in the following colleges, accompanied by awareness activities such as streetplays, poetry recitations, t-shirt donations, legal awareness sessions, flash mobs etc.

1. Lala Lajpatrai College
2. Rizvi College of Arts, Science and Commerce (Inauguration)
3. John Wilson's Education Society's Wilson College Autonomous
4. Valia College of Commerce

B: ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

In the lead up to the global Walk for Freedom, Advocacy and Capacity Building Team (TMI) partnered with over 110 colleges and 40 Non-Profit Organisations specialising in Anti-Human Trafficking work, to raise awareness in local communities via the following activities. 28,390 people were reached in these efforts.



HIGHLIGHTS:

65 awareness sessions on anti-human trafficking led by specialists were conducted nationwide, covering 5,680 attendees.

Street plays conducted by 65 volunteers reached 400+ audience.

Human chains conducted by 851 volunteers forming 12 chains in college and school campuses.

Poster Making Competitions, participated in by 182 volunteers were conducted in 6 campuses, followed by on-campus exhibitions.

Essay Writing Competitions participated by 533 volunteers were conducted in 7 rural locations.

Social media campaigns, documentary-watch parties and flash mobs were also conducted, reaching 15,000+ online and hundreds others in person.





C: WALK FOR FREEDOM

The Walk for Freedom, conceptualized and hosted globally by the international NGO A21, is the world's largest coordinated event to raise awareness about human trafficking. Conducted annually in October, this silent walk mobilizes thousands of participants across 50+ countries, who march in single-file processions through prominent public spaces. The event symbolizes solidarity with victims of trafficking while bridging the gap between agencies working to combat exploitation. Advocacy and Capacity Building Team (TMI) has been the India host for the Walks from 2017, conducting 36 Walks from 2017-2022.

On 14th October 2023 **34,110 Participants** took part in the Walk for Freedom events in India, led by Advocacy and Capacity Building Team (TMI), at **107 locations, in 14 States & Union Territories** across the nation.

| State | No. of Walk for Freedom Events | Participants |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 25 | 7,849 |
| Bihar | 6 | 2,289 |
| Delhi | 2 | 500 |
| Goa | 1 | 200 |
| Haryana | 1 | 120 |
| Karnataka | 11 | 4,181 |
| Kerala | 5 | 686 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 3 | 580 |
| Maharashtra | 40 | 14,736 |
| Meghalaya | 3 | 665 |
| Odisha | 1 | 236 |
| Tamil Nadu | 4 | 534 |
| Telangana | 3 | 515 |
| West Bengal | 2 | 1,019 |





HIGHLIGHTS:

The MSDLSA (Maharashtra State District Legal Services) partnered with Advocacy and Capacity Building Team (TMI) state-wide and mandated the DLSAs (District Legal Services Authority) in all 36 districts of Maharashtra to participate in the district-level Walk for Freedom event. This meant each specific districts' DLSA partnered with local NGOs and education institutes fostering inter-agency collaboration. 14,736 participants took part in the resulting 40 Walk for Freedom events across Maharashtra.

In Mumbai alone, over 3,000 citizens from colleges, businesses, government agencies and NGOs participated in 10 editions of the Walk for Freedom, including Walks within four slum communities hosted by Vision Rescue.

31 Walks were conducted in rural locations across India, particularly in the interior parts of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka & Telangana, conducted in partnership with Gram Jyothi Society, and a network of grassroot NGOs.

17 Walks were led by educational institutions such as Wilson College, Mumbai; BCM College, Kottayam; College of Forestry, Sirusi; Christ College, Bengaluru; Sankardev College, Shillong etc. These institutions opened up their college campuses to conduct awareness activities, followed by Walks in their local communities.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESCUES

Child Marriage Prevented: In September 2023, during anti-trafficking awareness activities conducted at a school in Kadiri, Andhra Pradesh, participating children reported that one of their peers - a 14-year-old neighbour was engaged, and about to get married. Advocacy and Capacity Building's (TMI) partner NGO REDS (Rural & Environment Development Society) immediately alerted the district authorities, the girl's home was visited and the child marriage was prevented. The girl is now continuing her schooling.

Child Labour Victims Rescued: The day after the Walk for Freedom in Kolkata, one of the core-team volunteers - Gourav Singha Roy - found two children aged 7 & 11 years engaged in domestic work by a couple in his society. When he inquired about their wellbeing, he started receiving threats leading him to lodge a complaint with the West Bengal Child Rights Commission. The WBCRC Head was the Chief Guest at the Kolkata Walk. The Commission took suo-moto notice and sent a team to his society, leading to the rescue of the children and took the perpetrators into custody. This citizen-initiated rescue was covered by CNN Global TV.

PRESS COVERAGE

Walk for Freedom 2023 garnered a total of **384 press coverages** across English, Hindi & Regional languages (285 in newspapers, 13 in TV channels & 86 in websites) reaching a combined readership and **viewership of 66,450,745**.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW 2023-24

The annual audit report can be found here.

[Click here](#)





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