# VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3

### A Quarterly Newsletter by Prakhyata Abhinand Charitable Trust

January - March 2023



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We found a gem of a team who mentored us throughout the last year. We made some remarkable progress in terms of quality and are happy to maintain this trajectory. We truly believe that our passion and efforts will help build further credibility and support our aim to meet the needs of OAS CwSN and their caregivers.

In the coming year, we intend to scale our work, not by going wide, but by going deep with our services. We thank you for your encouragement and kind support.

Follow us on Linkedin, Facebook and Instagram for updates. We also invite you to volunteer with us and be the catalyst for change.

REUBAN DANIEL & MERLYN HILDA Co-founders, PACT India



## From the Founders' Desk

We look back at 2022-23 with gratitude. On January 17th, 2023, PACT celebrated 3 years as a startup NGO for orphaned, abandoned, and surrendered (OAS) children with special needs (CwSN). The journey held surprises, joy, and learning from successes & failures. Eventually, through trust, faith, and excellence, we found the path to success.

At the start of this operational year, we were a team of 3 people. Now we are 6 enthusiastic people with welldefined roles and eagerness to grow.

We have gained more experience working from the ground and have struck a balance between keeping our vision alive and finding funding for resources. We have grown 3-fold since 2020, in reach, resource distribution, and services for our primary stakeholders, the children.

We are humbled to receive appreciation from reputed entities including UnLtd India, Adhyan Foundation, Karnataka Government, Dhwani Foundation, Catalyst for Social Action, and Motivation India. We plan to raise ₹60+ lakhs for the next operational year. Some key potential donors with experience in the social sector are visiting us. This acknowledgement gives us confidence.

## **FEATURED ARTICLE**

#### THE COHORT 1 EXPERIENCE

PACT's goal has been to reach CwSN and identify and treat their special needs accurately and effectively.

To progress on our goal, we brainstormed strategies and met with Ms Bharathi Devi, DCPO, Bengaluru Urban. Understanding the gravity of the problem, she quickly enabled structured screening camps by PACT for 165+ Child Care Institutes (CCIs) across Bangalore.

The **COHORT 1 program** began with 35+ CCIs from the central, south and north zones of Bangalore.

Along with the children's program, PACT also announced a CCI program to assess the readiness of a CCI to work on the welfare and holistic development of CwSN. A cash prize of ₹2.5 lakhs was assured for the CCI with the best practices in place and commitment towards this goal. Thank you, Ms Chitra Aravind, for this special contribution.

After 3 months of children's screening via a unique accredited assessment tool, and CCI screening based on the inspection format as per JJ Act, PACT shortlisted 18 CCIs.

The shortlisted CCIs were scored by a panel including Ms Anjana Kovoor, Adhyan Foundation; Ms Divya Karthik, Early Interventionist; Mr Manjunath & Mr Kantharaju from the Inclusive Education domain; and Mr Vinayak Rao from the disability sector.

Seven CCIs progressed to the second level where a jury panel comprising of Mr V R K Nakkina, independent professional consultant for the social sector, Coach & Governing board member of PACT; Mr David Istacky, CEO of Goodsam Foundation; and Mr A V Rajendra, renowned consultant & practitioner of quality management systems, chose the winner based on 11 parameters.

The jury team also visited the CCIs to confirm the findings of PACT's operational team and the panellists.

On 30th March 2023, DCPO Ms Bharathi announced the winner of the cash prize - **Infant Jesus Children's Home.** The home shelters 85+ children with HIV and physical disabilities.

A surprise joint cash prize of ₹1.75 lakhs was also announced for 17 CCIs.

The event was graced by the presence of dignitaries including Mr V S Basavaraj, Ex-Disability Commissioner; Mr M J Aravind, Founder, Dhwani Foundation; and Dr G V Basavaraja, President-elect 2023 for Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP).

On the same day, PACT also signed an MOU with the Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) for a program called ROSHAN (Reach out, Share And Nurture), a joint initiative by IAP and PACT to publish training manuals for caregivers in CCIs across Karnataka.



Infant Jesus Children's Home, winner



MOU with Indian Academy of Pediatrics

## **COHORT 1 Highlights**

PACT screened 617 children in need of care and protection (CNCP) sheltered in 33 CCIs. The following are our observations.

- 25% of the CNCP screened had at least one high-priority special need (excluding learning disability). A 2018 report by the Karnataka government put the ratio of CwSN in the state at 11% (this report only considered physical disability & intellectual disability).
- Among the 33 CCIs screened, 15 CCIs (45%) displayed a readiness or inclination to better manage special needs.
- 22% of children had a mental illness that will be further assessed and treated.
- 7.7% of children screened had a locomotor disability, CP, etc., which is higher than the disability statistics of India.
- 12.8% of the children screened had sensory impairments associated with speech, hearing or vision.
- 4.8% of the children had intellectual disabilities.
- 19.9% of the children had learning difficulties which will be referred for assessment and intervention.
- 1.7% of the children had Global Delayed Development (GDD).



Special Needs Screening for 76 children at the Govt Boys Home, Blr



Dignitaries at the COHORT 1 event

Thankyou

Ms Bharathi Devi <sup>(</sup>

for your huge support in making the COHORT program a reality.

## **PROGRESS UPDATES**

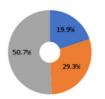
- 33 Child Care Institutes (CCIs) screened to identify children with special needs since September'22.
- 19 CCIs screened from January to March 2023.
- Met with *Ideas Unbound* on best practices for monitoring and impact measurement.
- Underwent a 5-hour team development program with our mentor Mr Nakkina.
- Received training on Wheelchair Service Provision and Training of Trainers organized by Motivation India (received by 2 members of the team).
- Delivered the first interstate CCI screening and caregiver training.

# JANUARY - MARCH 2023 REPORT ON THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN SCREENED AT CCIS AND THOSE IDENTIFIED WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Name of the CCI	No. of children screened	Name of the CCI	No. of children screened
Abhayashrama	35	HIS Paradise for The Deserted	18
Bala Yeshu Bhavan	8	Grace Foundation Charitable Trust	14
Balya Vidya Mandir (under Annaporna Charitable Trust)	52	Prajakirran Special Charitable Trust	3
BOSCO Mane	34	Swavalambhi Trust	13
BOSCO Vikas	43	Sharanya Childrens' Home	14
BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan	73	Sishu Maria Sadan	39
BOSCO Rainbow	54	Sunshine Children's Home	19
BOSCO Life Skill Centre, Sumanahalli	21	Missionaries of Charity	19
BOSCO Yuvakendra	19	Government Children Home for Girls	42

#### CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

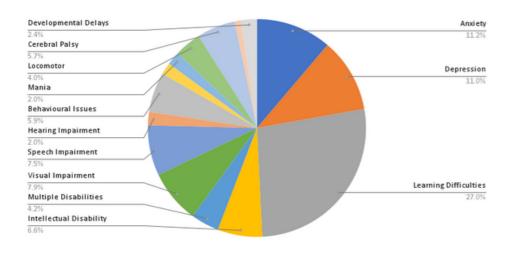
CCIs screened		No. of children screened	No. of children identified with special needs	No. of children with learning difficulties
	20	617	181	123



Children with learning difficulties

- Children with special needs
- Children without special needs

#### TYPES OF SPECIAL NEEDS IDENTIFIED AMONG 304 CHILDREN



#### REHABILITATION OF ORPHANED, ABANDONED, SURRENDERED CHILDREN'S TRAUMA AND SPECIAL NEEDS (ROOTS) PROGRAM

Name of the CCI	No. of children	No. of direct sessions	No. of tele- rehab sessions	Sessions delivered by caregivers	Total sessions
Sishu Mandir, Blr	13	-	-	1170	1170
ASG*, Hubli	7	-	63	630	693
ASG*, Kalburagi	9	-	81	810	891

\*ASG: Amulya Shishu Griha

#### WE INTEND NURTURE GIVING AND SUPPORT (WINGS) PROGRAM

Name of the CCI	No. of children	No. of direct sessions	No. of tele- rehab sesssions	Sessions delivered by caregivers	Total sessions
IJCH*	7	5	-	280	285
HPD**	17	176	-	-	176

\*\*IJCH: Infant Jesus Children's Home

\*\*HPD: HIS Paradise for The Deserted

#### **END MILE CONNECT (EMC) PROGRAM**

Name of the CCI	No. of new children screened
St. Patrick's Home	40
Sunshine Children's Home	24
Antaragange	6
Sishu Maria Sadan, Odisha	18



Screening, Missionaries of Charity, Blr



Screening children at Rainbow Home, Blr

#### Screening at Shishu Maria Sadan, Odisha

Our mentoring organization *Catalyst for Social Action* (CSA) requested us to conduct a screening and training program at *Sishu Maria Sadan* situated in G.Udayagiri in the Kandhamal district of Odisha. This is the first time we have taken the program outside our target geography. Mr Reuban and Ms Kavya received the full support of Mr Manoj and Mr Bjaya from CSA to make this successful.

This was a 3-day program that included disability screening as well as capacity building training. The beautiful home, surrounded by the hills, is run by 5 nuns who shelter and support the OAS girls. We screened 19 girls under the age of 18 years. The Sisters were also briefed on PACT's work, CSA, and Form 7 and Form 46 of the Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act.

We also helped the Sisters conduct a SWOT Analysis of their organisation, for their growth. The Sisters also appreciated the importance of a barrier-free environment after we conducted an environmental audit for accessibility and other related activities.

It was an interesting experience for us, to explore a different place with a different culture. We are happy to have been of service to the children and caregivers at the Child Care Home.

#### **Orientation to OT and Physiotherapy students**

On 9th February 2023, Mr Reuban was at Swami Vivekanand National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research (SVNIRTAR), Olatpur, Odisha, giving an orientation to Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy students and interns for upcoming campus interviews.



Screening at Shishu Maria Sadan, Odisha



Training & discussion with caregivers

#### UnLtd's Huddle 2023

Our co-founder and representative, Ms Merlyn Hilda, was at our incubator *UnLtd India's* annual summit "Huddle" last week. As a participant, she had the opportunity to interact, network, and learn from the best minds in India including policymakers, donors, investors, industry experts, and peers.

The day-long day event included insightful panel discussions, workshops on varied topics of interest, and meeting with donors and investors. PACT was also invited to showcase its work to 120 stakeholders at the event.

"As an attendee, I made connections with likeminded people from all around India. I attended knowledge transfer sessions and learned new skills and strategies. It was an excellent experience and a great event by UnLtd," says Merlyn.



Learning & sharing at UnLtd's Huddle

## **PACT** Activities

#### **Hospital Visit for HPD**

Ms Jyothika and Ms Merlyn Hilda visited a care home *HIS Paradise for The Deserted* to provide therapy to the children. They found three children suffering from high fever and one child with a nosebleed. Due to a shortage of caregivers, our team took them to Baptist Hospital with Sister Monica, the caregiver. Throughout the day, the children were restless and had continuous seizures. The situation was, however, managed by the doctors.

This was a new and harrowing experience for the PACT team. Both team members developed muscular pain from the day-long handling of the children. The experience has connected us even more deeply with the work of the caregivers and the need to support and empower them.

#### Wheelchair Service Provision Training and Training of Trainers by Motivation India

Ms Jyothika attended the 5-day Wheelchair Service Provision Training (WSPT) organised by Motivation India. WSPT is a basic level of training developed by WHO for assistive devices. She received training on WHO's 8-step guideline for assistive devices that include referral and appointment, assessment, prescription, funding and ordering, product preparation, fitting, user training, maintenance/repair and follow-up.

Ms Merlyn Hilda was part of the WHO-accredited *Training of Trainers (TOT)* program conducted by *Motivation India* for people who have completed the basic and intermediate levels and are willing to become WHO-certified trainers.

The in-depth training prepared participants to train a batch of 19 people from different organizations across India.

#### Fundraising

UnLtd India and Adhyan Foundation are currently funding PACT India. The funding pitch and budget submission were done for both organisations in parallel.



Wheelchair training by Motivation India

#### **Organisational Development**

PACT India is enrolled in *Dhwani Foundation's* Niranthara Sahayak program that helps small-scale NGOs grow by enabling and checking compliances (i.e., 12A, 80G, PAN, TAN, FCRA, PT, ESI, PF) required for a credible organisation. The program covers the training of a Lead, Co-ordinator and Board Member for 2 days every month over 9 months.

The Lead and Coordinator at PACT are attending the training program since January'23. Apart from the training on compliance, the trainees also learned to build the capacity of their team to improve its effectiveness to provide quality services to society. The team was also trained on the effective use of technology for seamless operations.

We believe this training will improve the quality of our services for the betterment of the children and the institutes that shelter them.



Training of Trainers, WHO -accredited

## THANK YOU, DONORS

**Mr Abhijit Mukherjee** has been a motivator and ardent follower of PACT since its inception. We thank him for choosing to support us with his kind donation. We are humbled by his association with us.

**Mr Neeraj Malhotra** from Bangalore is one of our benefactors from an earlier selfgeneration initiative. He is extending his kind support. We wish him & his family good health.

**Ms Veena**, an old friend of our cofounder, supported PACT as requested by her mother. We are thankful for her mindful support.

**Mr Ramakrishna Muvvala** regularly supports us. We appreciate his trust in us and the cause.

**Mr Mohan Saghyaraj** supports some of the needs that are not covered in other funding arrangements. This means a lot.



PACT team

## WELCOME, NEW TEAM MEMBERS

#### Ms Jyothika

Jyothika is a young, budding clinical therapist with a passion to serve and understand the social sector better. She is from Kerala, a graduate of Dr MGR Medical University. She has shown a keen interest in working with children with special needs. On the personal, front, she enjoys photography. We welcome her to our team.

#### Ms Vedika

Vedika has hands-on professional experience, having been part of her mother's NGO based out of Guwahati, Assam. She is a graduate of Sikkim Manipal College of Physiotherapy. She chose to work with PACT to grow her skills in the rehabilitation of OAS CwSN. She is outspoken and bold and adds strength to our team as a Program Associate.

#### Mr Joel K

Joel is a committed social worker who joined PACT as a coordinator of the ongoing program. He is a great find for this work and his passion inspires the rest of the team. His contribution will add to PACT's credibility further as he oversees and builds PACT's organisation development activities through a COHORT program.

## **April - June Plans**

- Reach out to donors with a strong fundraising strategy and raise INR 60 lakh for the next operational year
- Ensure donor assurance for our previous donors
- Start interventions for 150+ CwSN identified in the last year
- Publish our 2-year Annual Report by the 1st quarter of 2023-24
- Develop a focused strategy to build a caregiver's module

## PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT PACT'S OPEN POSITIONS

## **OPEN JOB POSTINGS**

#### **Occupational Therapist**

Salary ranging from ₹30-35K per month (excluding incentives). Master's or Bachelor's degree holders, experienced or fresher may apply.

#### **Speech Therapist**

Salary ranging from ₹20-25K per month (excluding incentives). Bachelor's degree holder, fresher may apply.

#### **Clinical Psychologist**

Bachelor's or Master's degree required. Freshers as well as those with 5 years of experience may apply.

**Job Location:** Bangalore. Including travelling to the rural community.

Date of Joining: Immediate

Salaries will be finalized after the interviews and competency mapping.



Orientation at Swami Vivekanand National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research (SVNIRTAR), Olatpur, Odisha

## **INTERN WITH US**

We welcome students from social work and allied health care backgrounds who must complete internships as part of their curriculum.

Educational institutes wishing to send their students to PACT may reach us by emailing info@pactindia.org.

We have 1-month and 3- month structured internship programs and field placements.

We also provide certificates of appreciation post the successful completion of the internship.



At Grace Foundation Charitable Trust, with volunteers from UTC, Blr

## Support PACT

PACT India is committed to rehabilitating OAS children with special needs in CCIs. The Government of Karnataka has recognised our efforts and partnered with us to take the ROOTS program to CCIs in the state. We have also launched the WINGS and End Mile Connect programs to ensure no child is left behind. (More about these programs on our website <u>www.pactindia.org.</u>)

Together We Can.

Corporate and individual donors can adopt a CCI or sponsor the children's rehabilitation costs.



	1 Orphanage's Healthcare Needs for a Year	₹22,500
	1 Child's Healthcare Needs for a Month	₹575
)	1 Child's Assistive Training for a Month	₹550

Make an open donation for PACT to use the funds based on urgent and important needs

## **HOW TO DONATE**

For online donations: https://pactindia.org/donate/

Scan with a UPI app:



#### For NEFT donations:

Account Name: Prakhyata Abhinand Charitable Trust A/C No.: 048607300000945 Bank: South Indian Bank Branch: Kothanur IFSC Code: SIBL0000486 Account type: Current

#### Did you know?

There are nearly 29.6M orphaned, abandoned and surrendered (OAS) children in India. And less than 10K child care institutes (CCI).

A significant percentage of these children have special needs. But lack of resources and training at CCIs has these children grow into "disabled" dependent adults.

This MUST change!

You can help.

## **CONTACT US**

VOLUNTEER, DONATE & NURTURE

Please email your inquiry to info@pactindia.org.

Call us at +91-9379741933.

Visit <u>www.pactindia.org.</u>



Donations to PACT are eligible for 50% tax exemption under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act, India.