

ANNUAL REPORT

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1. Working with Children on Railway Stations

1.1. Introduction

SATHI's core work has been working with runaway children in railway stations. Last year work continued to cover Railway platforms at three locations - Pune, New Delhi and Yeshwanthpur. With the pandemic behind us, we have seen an increase in the inflow of children across all locations.

In the following sections, we detail our achievements in working with Children at railway stations.

1.2. Outreach

Outreach is an essential component of our work with runaway children in railway stations. Through this process, we can identify and rescue children who are in need. Even in harsh weather conditions, such as heavy monsoons or the severe winters our outreach team continued to work diligently to reach as many children as possible.

Location	Project	Outreach Staff Strength
New Delhi	ICPS Open Shelter	18
Pune	Railway Childline	10
	ICPS Open Shelter	10
Yeshwanthpur	Railway Childline	9

As can be seen from the above table we have 47 staff across all locations for outreach. A large part of our team is dedicated to this important activity. This is because only outreach can help ensure that the maximum number of children are rescued.

The Government guidelines mandate that only official partners of Childline can work on railway platforms and manage outreach activities. In Pune and Yeshwanthpur SATHI is this partner and is also the only NGO working in these two stations. In Delhi, Prayas (another NGO) has this permission.

However, the Delhi station is massive and many children land here. With the aim of helping children, SATHI sought permission from the railway authorities and is conducting outreach. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Prayas for their support.

The work in Pune and Yeshwanthpur is supported by the Central Government, Apart from this, the work in Yeshwanthpur is also supported by Bajaj Finance. For our work in Delhi, SATHI receives funds from the New Delhi State Government, Dept of Child Welfare.

Table 1: Number of children rescued from all 3 railway stations

Railway Station	Total children rescued	Boys	Girls
Delhi	513	476 (93%)	37 (7%)
Pune	522	430 (82%)	92 (18%)
Yeshwanthpur	356	326 (92%)	30 (8%)
Total	1391	1232 (89%)	159 (11%)

In the year 2022-23, we rescued 1391 children. As can be seen, many of these rescued (1232) children were boys.

In Yeshwanthpur, we had an issue of rescuing a lesser number of children. Hence a detailed analysis of outreach vs train timings was undertaken. This helped us to rework the outreach timings and rescue more children from the station.

Table 2: Children resettlement from all 3 railway stations

Railway Station	Total children rescued	Handed over to parents on railway platform	Transferred to other NGO shelters	Brought to SATHI shelters
Delhi	513	150 (29%)	18 (4%)	345 (67%)
Pune	522	70 (13%)	93 (18%)	359 (69%)
Yeshwanthpur	356	69 (19%)	287 (81%)	0
Total	1391	289 (21%)	398 (29%)	704 (50%)

As can be seen from the above data, 50% of the rescued children were taken to SATHI shelters while others were either reunited with their parents or referred to other NGOs.

We would also like to highlight that SATHI open shelters are only for boys. So girl children rescued are either reunited with their families or referred to other CCIs. The table below details the status of girls rescued by SATHI in the last year.

Table 4: Number of girl children rescued from all 3 railway stations

Railway Stations	Total Rescued	Restored	Living in CCI
Delhi	37	19 (53%)	18 (47%)
Pune	92	16 (17%)	76 (83%)
Yeshwanthpur	30	6 (20%)	24 (80%)
Total	159	41 (26%)	118 (74%)

1.3. Shelter Care

Children rescued from the railway platform and those referred by the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) to SATHI's open shelter, are accommodated in our shelters in New Delhi and Pune. At any given time there are 15 children in these shelters. All children at the shelter receive nutrition, medical aid (if needed), and are part of activities like NFE, dance, art, Yoga etc. SATHI incurs a cost of Rs.12,000/- per child. Our shelter expenses are supported by DWCD under ICPS open shelter program and Bajaj General Insurance Company in Pune and MWCD under ICPS open shelter in Delhi. Children live here until they are reunited with their families or placed in suitable CCIs. Last year 792 children accessed our shelter.

Table 3: Resettlement of children from SATHI shelters

SATHI Shelters	Total children in SATHI shelters	Children resettled from SATHI shelters	Restored with family	Referred to long-term care in CCI
Delhi	393	364	319 (88%)	45 (12%)
Pune	399	383	305 (80%)	78 (20%)
Total	792	747	624 (84%)	123 (16%)

Note: As of 31st March 2023, 44 children were there in our shelters. 1 child dropout from the shelter from Pune.

Engaging children, ensuring their safety, and nutrition and ascertaining that there is no bullying or abuse (among children) is a tough job. It is due to the perseverance and determination of the shelter staff that we are able to ensure that the shelter is a safe space for children. To keep the children engaged, many activities are conducted. Detailed below are the activities conducted across the shelters in 2022-23.

- **Non-Formal Education:** NFE classes are conducted every day in the shelters. Children are at varying levels in their academics. Our teachers divide the children into smaller groups. This helps the teachers to provide individualised attention and support to each child.

Given that most children live in SATHI shelters for a short duration, NFE is a way of engaging them. In cases where the child is a drop-out, NFE classes are a means of kindling an interest in resuming studies.

In Delhi, the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) has instructed all shelters to use an educational assessment tool. As part of the Annual Status of Education Report, shelters have to assess the educational levels of children in the shelter and the report is submitted to the DCPCR every month. The tool is an excellent way to assess progress, but given that the children in our shelters live for a very short duration, we feel that the data isn't very relevant.

- **Celebrations:** Celebrations like birthdays, and national and religious festivals provide a much-needed change from daily routine and create a sense of community and belonging among the staff and children. All festivals and birthdays were celebrated with enthusiasm by the staff and children.
- **Visits:** A change from routine is always welcome. In Delhi, the CWC instructed us to take the children on exposure visits to places like the National Railway Museum and to Raj Ghat. While we did follow this instruction, these trips are a big responsibility for the staff. This is because they need to ensure that children do not run away. In summation, these two visits were a welcome change and children got an opportunity for some learning and sightseeing.

SATHI would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to the Railways. We are provided shelter home by Railways, in their quarters at Pune. We thank them. We do not run shelter at Yeshwanthpur but railways have given us quarter, which houses the staff.

1.4. Reunification

As pioneers of reunification in the country, this forms the core of our work. The process of reunification which starts with counselling the child takes a considerable amount of time and effort. This is done under the supervision of the Child Welfare Committee (CWC). The CWC is kept informed of the progress of each child and only with their permission, children are reunited with their families. With technological advancement and mobile phones tracing the homes of most children is much easier, but we do have cases where children do not know the address or the families have no phones. Though such cases are a small percentage, tracing the homes of these children is an uphill task.

We are proud to say that last year 624 children who came to SATHI shelters, were counselled and reunited with their families.

Meetings, Visits and Audits: Our teams have been part of stakeholder meetings at the railway stations. These meetings help us connect with our stakeholders and also keep them informed of the ongoing and upcoming activities. Added to this, a stakeholder meeting is an appropriate platform for us to raise our concerns and get some resolution for the same. Pune and Delhi shelters have also had visitors from CWC, donor agencies, DCPCR, DWCD and DCPU.

Training: staff across the locations have been part of external training. Some of these were refresher training while others gave them new insights and learning's. However, providing adequate training to staff and upskill them has been a weak area for SATHI. We acknowledge the gap and are looking at strengthening this area.

Audits: Internal and external audits (program and finance) were conducted regularly in Pune. These audits have helped highlight shortcomings and the teams have taken measures to rectify the same.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank some of our stakeholders for their support. Their contribution and involvement has played a crucial role in our work at the station and the shelters

- Mr. Suresh Chandra Jain, Station Director Pune
- Dr. Rani Dushyanth Kedikar, Pune CWC-1 Chairperson and Members Mr. Anand Shinde, Ms. Vyshali Gaikwad and Ms. Shyamlatha
- Mr Anshu Rastogi, ADRM, New Delhi Division
- Mr Mahesh Yadav, Station Director, Delhi Railway Station
- Mr Rakesh Sharma, Station Manager, New Delhi
- Mr. Rajesh Kumar Maurya, SHO-GRP Delhi Station
- Mr. D.K. Dixit, SHO-RPF, Delhi Station
- Mr Varun Pathak, Delhi CWC - IX Chairperson and members Ms. Angelika S Gier, Mr. Bhaskar J Gogoi, Ms. Purnima R Panda and Ms. Anjali Kumari
- NGOs- Prayas and Salam Balak Trust, Delhi
- Mr. Ramachandrappa, Station Director, Yeshwanthpur Station
- Mr. Shiv Kumar, Deputy Station Manager, Yeshwanthpur Station
- GRP and RPF teams at Yeshwanthpur station
- Mrs. Nagarathna, CWC-1, Bangalore, Chairperson and members Sr Juliet, Mr. Hanumanthayya, Ms. Leelavathi
- Mr. Shanmugam CWC-2 Bangalore Chairperson and members Ms. Shakeela Banu, Mr. Shankrappa and Mr. Kalleshappa
- Fr. Palli and Fr. Prasad, BOSCO, Bangalore

Every stakeholder's unique contribution help us achieve our goals and deliver outstanding results. We thank you and look forward to continuing our collaboration.

1.5. Case of 3 brothers forced into begging

Three brothers were forced to beg on the Pune railway station by their father. Our staff and RPF made multiple attempts and told the father to stop using the children as a tool to earn money. The father did not mend his ways. As a final resort, the RPF rescued the children and handed them to SATHI for care and protection.

At SATHI, the children received proper care, nutrition, medical care and were engaged in constructive activities. The boys underwent a remarkable physical transformation (reference image below). SATHI and the RPF prepared a joint case and presented it to the CWC. In this we recommended that for their safety and growth, the children should be separated from their father and be placed in a CCI.

The CWC favoured the recommendation and placed the 3 brothers together in one CCI.



1.6. Rescue Drives

A rescue drive is a week-long exercise where stations are monitored 24X7. This is a joint activity undertaken by NGOs working in the station and stakeholders. Such drives ensure that children do not slip away from our watch and they also help us estimate the number of children arriving in a station.

These drives, then help all concerned to rework their strategy so that more children are rescued regularly. In 2022-23, we conducted four such rescue drives. Two of the drives were conducted in Pune and the other two were conducted in Delhi. The table below provides important details of all the rescue drives organised last year.

Rescue Drive Key Data

Place	Month	# of days rescue drive was conducted	# of staff involved	# of children covered	Inflow of children Per day
Pune, Maharashtra	August 2022	7 days	16	27	4
	October 2022	7 days	16	24	4
New Delhi	February 2023	7 days	8	29	4
	March / April 2023	7 days	65	409	58
Total	4	28 days	105	489	

Thank you!!

Rescue drives are possible due to cooperation and collaboration of many people/departments. We would like to thank all the NGOs, CWC, GRP, RPF, Railway officials, Police, DWCD and volunteers who have helped us in rescue drives across locations.

We rescued a 15-year-old boy, a resident of Delhi and a student at Delhi Public School. He was found alone at the New Delhi railway station during the rescue drive. After interacting with the child we came to know that his final exam results were announced recently and he got 90% marks. His father, however, was not happy with his marks. The boy was sad due to his father's reaction and decided to run away from home and go to his grandmother's house in his native village in Bihar. We counselled the child and explained the trouble he could get into while travelling alone without informing his parents. He agreed to give us his father's contact number. Once he was comfortable with us, he shared that he had taken nearly Rs. 25,000 from his home while running away. We ensured that the money was kept safe. When we contacted the boy's father, he told us that he had no idea that the child was at the railway station. He thought his son had gone to play in the park. We called his father to the railway station and counselled him. We made him understand his words and his abrupt reaction to the exam results had affected his son deeply. We also discussed how the children can be sensitive and he needs to communicate in a loving and caring manner. After verifying the father's identity and counselling both the father and the son, we sent the boy home along with the money he had brought.

Donor Details for Working with Children in Railway Stations

Locations	WCD to run Open Shelter (in lakhs)	WCD to run Railway Childline (in lakhs)	Bajaj Finserv (in lakhs)	Total (in lakhs)
Pune	22.40	03.15**	45.00	70.55
New Delhi	11.00*	0	26.00	37.00
Yeshwanthpur	0	04.87***	08.00	12.87
Total	33.40	08.02	79.00	120.42

* Yet to receive Rs. 8 lakhs at New Delhi

** Yet to receive Rs.8.5 lakhs from CIF, Pune

*** Yet to receive Rs.7.5 lakhs from CIF, YPR, Bangalore

Photos from the Field



2. Support for Children and Families Affected During Covid Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic was an unprecedented crisis that affected lakhs of families, including children. The pandemic created a threat to many children as primary breadwinners of many families have lost their lives. The situation is even more concerning for children from financially marginalised families. With income sources dwindling during the pandemic and limited financial savings to rely on, the loss of the breadwinner resulted in great economic hardship for the families.

SATHI realised that this could increase the dropout rates from schools. Mainly because the children may have to work for survival. This was when SATHI decided to do something for the children affected by the pandemic. For the convenience of implementation, we chose Karnataka as our project area.

Thus SATHI in collaboration with the Karnataka State Integrated Child Protection Society, KSICPS launched a project titled “We Care for You” – A support system for COVID-19-affected children belonging to financially marginalised families.

SATHI started the project by interacting with a few affected families. This interaction was beneficial as it helped chalk out our strategy for the project. Before the interaction, SATHI wanted to work with children alone. But following the interaction we realised working with the child and their surviving parent would benefit the family in the long run.

Hence, our intervention was designed with three key parts:

1. Support children to continue their education
 - a. Provide direct financial support to help pay school fees (mostly private school children)
 - b. Provide financial support to help pay for other education-related expenses such as stationery, uniforms, travel and tuition (mostly govt. school children)
 - c. Help apply for qualifying scholarships and government benefits
2. Support and enable surviving parents or guardians
 - a. Conduct livelihood assistance workshops to orient single mothers towards various livelihood development opportunities
 - b. Help a subset of the women start or expand their small business ventures
 - c. Apply for qualifying government benefits
 - d. Provide financial assistance for food and housing in emergency situations
3. Conduct counselling sessions for both children and the surviving parent as needed

With the above strategy, we launched the project in the districts of Chikkaballapur and Bangalore Rural of Karnataka in 2021. This Project of two years was supported by LetzDream Foundation, Akamai Technologies and Synamedia Ltd.

With support from Bajaj Finserv, the project was replicated in Pune in 2022.

2.1. Project in Karnataka

In Karnataka, the “We Care for You” program was operational in the districts of Bangalore Rural and Chikkaballapur. We received donations of Rs. 55 lakhs for the 206 beneficiaries identified by SATHI.

The project earmarked 5% of the funds for the identification and assessment of families, 47% is earmarked for training and allied support, 40% of the funds is spent directly for the beneficiaries and 8% is admin cost.

Intervention

Prior to launching the project, SATHI entered into an MoU with the Government of Karnataka. This MoU gave us permission to work in the two districts and also access to data of children who had lost either one or both parents in the pandemic.

SATHI recruited an 8 member team for the COVID project. The team comprised 6 field staff, 1 counsellor and 1 program manager. The team conducted house visits and completed a detailed questionnaire. The questionnaire covered many aspects such as availability of food, house rent, debts, family income and expenses, liabilities etc.

With such a detailed analysis, we were able to shortlist cases where there was a genuine need for support. The shortlisted families became part of the project and received support as per the project strategy. The table below details the number of families selected in Chikkaballapur and Bangalore Rural.

Table: Number of families surveyed and later selected for support in two districts in Karnataka

District	No. of beneficiaries surveyed	Number of beneficiaries selected for support
Chikkaballapur	331 children (211 families)	102 children (77 families)
Bangalore Rural	172 children (97 families)	104 children (60 families)

From the above families, 97% of the breadwinners (fathers) had passed away during the COVID pandemic and the mothers were widowed. 96% of these families were in the Below Poverty Line (BPL) category and their monthly household income was 6K to 15K.

Table: Gender-wise data of children who received assistance in COVID project

Districts	No. of Taluks	Total children	Gender		School	
			Male	Female	Private	Govt.
Chikkaballapur	03	104	47	57	63	41
Bangalore Rural	06	102	46	56	42	60

Outcomes and Achievements

A. Help for Children

Our main focus here was to ensure that children continued with their education and also had enough support to perform well. Hence SATHI supported a wide range of expenses to ascertain that this goal was achieved.

Location	School fee support	Other education financial support
Chikkaballapur	51	51
Bangalore Rural	65	39

From the table above it can be seen that 116 children received support for school fees and 90 children received other educational support. Other educational support includes expenses such as school bus fees, uniform and stationary expenses, tuition fees etc.

Our staff worked very hard to ensure that children got discounts on their school fees or in some other expenses. They personally met the principals of schools and followed up multiple times to secure discounts wherever possible.

SATHI was aware that the assistance that we offered was of short duration. To ensure that children had long-term financial assistance we helped them to apply for scholarships and government schemes. We focused on eight such services that would support them even after the project concluded. The details are given below.

1. Private Scholarships
2. DCPO Scholarships
3. Caste Scholarships
4. Parent labour card scholarships
5. Bank account correction
6. Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana
7. Documentation correction
8. Vocational and skill training

B. Help for the Surviving Parent

As mentioned earlier, SATHI worked with families where the breadwinner had died due to COVID-19. The surviving parent (mostly the mother) was now burdened with financial responsibility as well. Our staff counselled these mothers and motivated them to start earning to support their families.

Many of these families were land owners and small-time farmers and about 80% of the women worked as labourers in their villages. But 20% of the women showed an interest in upskilling themselves and getting jobs, setting up a business or improving the existing business. The team guided and helped these women achieve their dream of providing a better future for their families.

Our achievements in this area were:

- 1) 25 women were given seed money to set up their enterprises. These women have received support ranging from Rs.15,000 to Rs. 20,000.
- 2) We have helped 33 women get jobs near their villages. A job with a fixed income has helped women to manage their families and plan for the future. The salaries that they earn ranged between Rs.6,000 to Rs.15,000/-.

Table: District-wise data of help for surviving parent

Location	Jobs	Self-employment
Chikkaballapur	19	14
Bangalore Rural	14	11

3) All the surviving parents were helped to apply for government schemes and pensions. Apart from this we also helped them with government documentation. The schemes and documentation that were most sought by our beneficiaries were:

1. Widow pension
2. Labour card
3. Aayushman Bharat
4. Documentation correction
5. New documentation (death certificate)

C. Family Psychological Support

SATHI recognized the emotional impact of losing a partner/parent. The trauma of such a loss can affect people differently. Hence a professional counsellor was engaged to help our beneficiaries cope with the loss.

The focus of the counselling initially was on coping with the loss and trauma. As the project progressed, the need for counselling varied. Given that we had a mixed group of mothers and children of varying ages, wherever possible the counsellor provided support tailored to the individual's needs.

D. Challenges Encountered

#	Challenges	Mitigation Plan followed
1	Delay in the signing of MoU with DCPO due to transfers of concerned officials	We made frequent visits to the department and had multiple discussions with the concerned officials where we explained the urgency to start our work prior to the beginning of the academic year. Following these discussions, the officials cooperated with us and signed MoU with DCPU which gave us access to the beneficiaries' primary data and the permission to start our work
2	The target population is scattered geographically and transportation facilities are also limited	SATHI's main office in Bengaluru city, but we had assembled a satellite team with staff who live closer to the beneficiaries thus reducing some travel time. We also identified one team member who could travel on a bike. The use of personal modes of transportation also helped reduce dependency on intermittent modes.
3	Parents not being transparent about the information they share with the team	Parents were hesitant to share information such as household income, support from extended families, housing arrangements, etc. initially. Over time, we built a rapport with the family members which led them to share correct information. We also built rapport and network with the neighbours, Asha workers, Anganwadi workers, local CBOs and community leaders. During each visit to the community/villages, we spoke with these stakeholders to both gather additional information and verify the information received from the beneficiary families.
4	Some parents are expecting direct financial (Cash) handouts and therefore are not willing to receive other forms of help from us that will ensure their children's continued education	Through repeated counselling of the family members and intervention from the local stakeholders, we were able to communicate the benefits of seeking SATHI's help and convinced them to cooperate with us in the interest of their child's long-term betterment.
5	The majority of the women had completed their education up to 12th or less. Moreover, they had never worked formally, many worked as labourers only.	This made it difficult for us to bring them into the mindset to work regularly and prepare them with the necessary skills to take up relatively high-paying jobs. Overcoming both these challenges within a matter of a few months was daunting. Through counselling, we tried to change the mindset of as many women as possible. We then focused on jobs or ventures that were a part of their rural context and those they could easily take up.

Our intervention to help COVID-affected families in Karnataka wouldn't have been possible without the support of some people. We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to them.

- Sri K.P. Mohanraj, IAS (IGR), Inspector General of Registration & Commissioner of Stamps, & Nodal officer
- Smt. Pallavi Akurathi, I.A.S, Directorate of Child Protection;
- Smt. Bharathi Devi B.S Programme Manager ICPS (SARA) & additional in charge of DCPO
- Smt. Mumtaz, Programme Manager ICPS (CP)

The COVID project gave SATHI an opportunity to help some children and ensure that they would continue with their education.

2.2. Project in Maharashtra

In the first round of survey we identified 37 families. Out of 5 families are economically well, so we state that 14% families do not require any kind of support. We concentrated on those 86% (32 families) who needed help and were economically poor. We supported them with grocery, education materials, counselling support and school fees support for 3 children. Remaining children were supported by Cybage Foundation and JM Foundation already. Supporting the following families are under process:

- 2 families are in need of house rent
- 4 Children who are above 18 years above are required skill training like tailoring, beautician training, Nursing, etc. We have planned to connect them to some local NGOs and institutions for vocational training.
- 5 Families required support to apply for legal documents like ration card, residential proof certificates, widow pension, Bal Sangopan etc. We will help them to get these done and link them to government social protection schemes.

Case of well-settled family who is not coming under our category:

Omkar's father passed away due to covid. He was the owner of a garage. His economic condition was good. Omkar is the youngest in the family and he is studying in 12th std. His sister is studying 1st year medical. Omkar is staying in a joint family where his grandfather and uncle take care of the entire family. Their family is very orthodox, so women are not allowed to work. They have received Rs.50,000/- from PM Covid care fund after the death of Omkar's father. Family has their own house and is well settled and also they are economically stable. So SATHI decided not to support this family as they are not coming under our criteria.

3453 covid affected children list collected from DCPO of Pune district, out of 1160 children comes under Pune rural area and 2193 children are listed under Pune city. We have shortlisted 540 children from Pune city for the survey. Out of 540 children, 291 children are contacted on phone and collected the information, 199 children are not contacted. House visits and physical verification of all 291 children completed. After the physical home visit, we have analysed each case and finalised 225 children from 147 families who are in need of support. We will help them in April, May and onwards.

This project is supported by Bajaj Finance with the budget of Rs.80 lakhs for the period upto December 2023. We thank them.

3. Education Project

SATHI's education project was started in 2020 and is now operational in Karnataka and Maharashtra. There are two aspects of this program

1. Teaching children in Child care institutions (3 - 4 CCI in Pune only)
2. Coaching Academically bright 30 students from Karnataka and Maharashtra

3.1 Teaching Children in Child Care Institutions (Pune CCIs)

SATHI has been working with three CCIs in and around Pune city namely SAMPARC Bal Kendra, Mundhwa CCI and Maulikrupa in Alandi. Children living in these CCIs often come from difficult family backgrounds and have major gaps in their basic education. Thanks to these CCIs, the children receive good nourishment, a safe place to stay and access to basic education. While the CCI staff is involved in providing these basic necessities to the children under their care, it is not possible for them to pay attention to each child's educational needs. The aim of working with the CCIs is to address the educational/conceptual gaps and provide academic support to the children living in these institutions. By focusing on the key subjects of Maths, Physics and Chemistry and using participatory teaching methods, SATHI is providing a more engaging and effective learning experience for these children.

Implementation

1. Online Classes: Visiting the CCIs every week for classes was impossible for our volunteer teachers, hence we preferred online classes for the children. In the last year, we have taught 91 children (35 girls and 56 boys) in the three CCIs. The children were of varying ages and were between grades 2 and 10.

Teaching children of all grades together wouldn't have been effective. So we divided them into two groups. One group had children between classes 2&6 and the second group had children in classes 7&10. This made teaching easier and learning productive.

Along with learning academics, we also explained to children the importance of special days like national maths/science day, independence day etc

2. Fun Saturdays: We observed that children in all the CCIs were reserved and didn't express themselves. So on Saturdays, children were given a platform to display their talents or express themselves. Initially, the children were hesitant to participate so we started with storytelling and general discussions. Slowly children were encouraged to perform dramas, dance, display their martial arts, discuss etc.
3. CCI Visits: Personal visits and interactions help build a bond. This cannot be replaced by online interactions. So SATHI staff visited the CCIs regularly to meet the children and staff at CCIs and build a bond with them. These visits were insightful and gave us a glimpse into the other side as well. Interacting and having discussions with the staff also helped us build rapport and help them wherever possible.

Outcome

The educational program at the CCIs not only helped children in improving their grades but also helped children in other ways. Detailed below are some of the outcomes of the educational program

1. Improved conceptual clarity: The children at the CCIs also bore the brunt of the educational gap due to the pandemic. We saw that many children had poor conceptual clarity in Maths. A large number of them didn't even know simple multiplication. At the end of the year, we saw that children had a much better understanding of mathematical concepts.

The CCI staff also mentioned that a few months after the classes started children were able to complete the homework and they had better grades as well.

2. Improved confidence and social skills: Prior to the educational classes the children were reserved and hesitant to talk. Through continuous motivation and fun Saturdays, the children have become confident and expressive. They also volunteer and participate in class activities and are able to have conversations and discuss diverse topics.
3. Better Discipline: When SATHI started the classes, the children were restless and lacked discipline in class. Through constant reiteration of rules, we were able to inculcate discipline among the children. Also, we taught them techniques to improve focus and concentration which helped them in their day-day life.

We thank the CCIs and department for giving permission.

Challenges

Though the class had a lot of positives it was not without its challenges. Some of the challenges we faced are mentioned below

Staff Shortage at the CCI: even though the classes were on the online medium, we needed one staff to log in and check that the class was completed without any technical glitches. But many-a-times, staff either had other commitments or there was a shortage of staff to login and start the class.

Technical issues: This includes the non-availability of a computer and network issues. In one CCI, SATHI provided computers as an interim solution. However, we have also seen that some CCI staff let children take the class on their personal phones. We would like to thank these teachers for enabling the continuity of the classes.

Apprehension of online classes: It was seen that the CCI staff and children were apprehensive about having regular online classes. This was resolved through personal meetings and discussions.

Sometimes due to other events and visitors, the classes would get cancelled. But this was beyond our control.

Mixed group: Even though we had divided the children into two groups catering to the needs of all was difficult. So each group was split into sub-groups. The teacher would teach one concept to a sub-group and give them an exercise. The next sub-group was then called. This ensured that every group got attention from the teacher and was meaningfully engaged throughout the session.

The program was funded by Bajaj Insurance Company. Teaching the children in CCIs was a learning and refreshing experience and SATHI would like to thank the department, and all staff of the three CCIs for making this possible. Cost per child is Rs. 17,500/- (includes professional guidance, educational materials, Science experiments and model building, staff / teacher salaries and admin cost)

3.2 Coaching Academically Bright Students

There is no dearth of brilliant students across the country. But if these students belong to economically weak families they do not receive adequate academic support and guidance.

SATHI started coaching such brilliant students in Karnataka three years back. Today in Karnataka we are training our third batch of students. The project with its first batch of students was replicated in Maharashtra last year.

The following paragraphs explain the how and what of this program.

How do we Identify Students?

Students studying in class 8 across all government schools in India are eligible to appear for the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme exam. This exam is conducted by every state. There are multiple criteria which children must meet to appear for this exam.

The NMMS exam is for 180 marks. Once results are declared, SATHI scouts for children who have scored above 100. With permission from their schools, SATHI contacts these children and provides them with additional coaching.

What do we do?

We have observed every year that we start with a high number of students. But throughout the year we have drop-outs and only 8-10 students study with us until the goal is achieved.

- The selected students are coached for an hour every day. They are given additional support for their academics.
- The students are coached for the NTSE exam, and board exam and also given career counselling. SATHI also helps them with admissions for class 11. We also help them in making the appropriate career choice.
- SATHI also provided the students with reference books and question banks which act as additional study resources.
- Our second batch of 8 students in Karnataka appeared for class 10 exams in March 2023. Parallely we are also training our third batch of 8 students who will appear for class 10 exams in March 2024.
- In Maharashtra we are coaching our 1st batch of 12 students who will appear for class 10 in 2023 - 24.
- SATHI is already in the process of identifying our 4th batch of students in Karnataka. We hope to reduce attrition this year by understanding the root cause for the same.

Note of Gratitude

The coaching for academically brilliant students is a success due to the efforts of our volunteers/ teachers. The teachers are:

1. Mr. Ulhas Vairagyaker
2. Ms. Geeta
3. Dr. Vineet Raichur
4. Mr. Ramesh
5. Mr. Pramod Kulkarni
6. Dr. Pancharatna
7. Mrs. Shwetha Joshi
8. Mr. Mahesh
9. Ms. Jyotsna
10. Ms. Usha
11. Ms. Priya
12. Ms. Mayur Tembe

SATHI would like to extend its sincere gratitude to these teachers for their time and effort to ensure that a handful of brilliant students receive sound academic help and will be able to change the future of their families.

SATHI would also like to thank Mrs. Shobha Agarwal who has donated Rs. 10 lakhs for the project.

4. Cases of Children helped in different Projects

4.1. Cases from Railway Stations

A. Yeshwanthpur Railway Station

1) Father who refused to take his son home

15-year-old Hanif was spotted by the outreach staff. He was playing on the escalator in Yeshwanthpur station. The staff approached Hanif. Hanif told that his parents were on platform no.6. The staff asked Hanif to accompany him and they waited there for 10-15 minutes. When no one came, the staff spoke with Hanif and explained who he was. Hanif was then taken to the help desk. At the help desk, Hanif started crying. We pacified him and asked him to tell us his story. Hanif told he lived in the Hospet district. His father was an auto driver and his mother begged outside the mosque. He said that he worked in a garage and one of his friends stole some money there. According to Hanif, when his father heard about the incident, he hit Hanif. Angered by this action of his father, Hanif left home. We then asked Hanif for his parents' contact details. He gave us incorrect numbers.

Hanif was told that unless he gave his parents' phone numbers they wouldn't know where he was and he would have to live in the CCI for a long period. Hanif eventually gave us his father's number. We produced Hanif in the CWC and after placing him in the CCI, we called his father. Hanif's father told us that he was tired of Hanif's behaviour. He told us that Hanif had dropped out of school after class 8. He said that Hanif played cards with some boys and older men and he also had started stealing money. His father told us that he had warned Hanif many times to focus on his studies but the boy didn't pay any heed.

Some days back Hanif had cut his hair in a style that his father didn't approve of. Father and son fought this and his father even hit Hanif. His father said that Hanif probably left home because of this. Hanif's father refused to take him home. He said that living in the CCI could be a learning experience for Hanif.

In a recent follow up done, we came to know that Hanif is restored with his father on 12th December 2022.

2) Poor financial condition at home, made the child to leave home in search of job

On 22nd October 2022, we met a teenager (15 years) at the Yeshwanthpur railway station. We approached the lone child trying to find out something about him. After some time we realised he had a speech disorder. His speech wasn't clear and it was difficult to understand him.

Through some basic sign language, we asked him to come to the help desk. We continued communicating with him by talking and using sign language. The case study details are based on what we understood. The child said his name was Trampul and he was from Hue village in Bihar.

Trampul told us that his family was facing financial difficulties and so he left home in search of a job. He got a job in a hotel near Yeshwanthpur station. He worked there for a couple of months but wasn't paid.

Some days back childline members observed Trampul working in the hotel and warned the owner of the severe consequences of employing an underage boy. The worried owner asked Trampul to leave and didn't pay him.

Not knowing where to go, Trampul came to Yeshwanthpur station. Based on the information that he gave us we tried tracing his address. We showed him many images and locations on maps but the boy was unable to recognise any location.

We produced Trampul at the CWC and explained the case. The CWC referred him to the children's home. When we visited the home some days back we met Trampul. He continues living there as no one is able to trace his home.

B. Pune Railway Station

3) Through police and village sarpanch child able to reach the family

Vilas (15 years) was rescued by Railway Childline staff on 28th July 2022. He told us that he was from Amadara, Jalgaon. He was referred to the shelter by the CWC. In the shelter, Vilas was initially reserved and didn't interact with anyone. When Vilas was called for counselling he didn't share much. He told us his name was Rahul. He also said that his family members didn't know his whereabouts. He said that apart from his parents he had two older brothers and he had come to Pune to meet one of them. Apart from this Vilas didn't share any details of his family.

We gave Vilas some time to settle. Over subsequent days, Vilas told us that he had never attended school as he wasn't interested in studies. He also said that he did odd jobs and got food in return of the work that he did. Vilas also told us that he was addicted to the solution. We started involving Vilas in the shelter activities which he also enjoyed.

SATHI attempted to search Vilas's family. Vilas had given his village name and district when he was first contacted. We contacted the police stations closest to his village. After 4 days and multiple follow-ups, the police gave us the number of the Sarpanch of Vilas's village. we contacted the Sarpanch and through him, we contacted Vilas's family. Vilas's parents were happy that their child was safe. They told Vilas was a quiet child but never showed any interest in his studies.

In the 15 days that Vilas stayed at the shelter, he learned to write his name. He also didn't use any solution and didn't seem to crave it. Before restoration we advised Vilas to enrol in school or some skill training and use his time wisely. We also advised him about the ill effects of using solutions and other addictive substances. Vilas's parents were asked to be more hands-on and keep track of their child's friends, movements and habits.

After completing all formalities, Vilas was sent home with his parents on 12th August 2022.

4) Peer group influence made the child to leave home for city attraction

On 22nd June 2022, the Railway Childline staff saw three boys around 12-13 years of age at Pune station. They were unaccompanied and were hence rescued and referred to the SATHI shelter. However, the boys travelled alone very often and were confused as to why they were in a shelter. The case study is about one of the boys, Kartik Sawant.

Kartik (12 years) was scared and attempted to run away. We explained to him that the shelter was a safe space and that no one would harm him. We asked Kartik for some details. He told us that his parents lived in Belgaon. He lived in Panvel with his maternal aunt and his sister lived in Mumbai with another maternal aunt.

Kartik was irregular at school. Since that particular day was a holiday he decided to come to Pune to meet his grandmother. He said that he and his friends had informed their families. Kartik said that they travelled alone and never faced any problems. We explained to Kartik the risks and difficulties that children travelling alone face.

Kartik understood why he was rescued and shared his uncle's number. When we spoke with the uncle, we sensed anger. His uncle told Kartik hadn't informed them and had stolen money as well. Kartik was surprised as well. After this Kartik's uncle switched off his phone.

We were wondering how to send the child home as there was no other contact number. However the next day Kartik's grandmother came to the shelter. She said that the uncle was angry and scared as this was a new situation for them. Kartik's grandmother also told us that the family always encouraged him to study.

We requested the grandmother to ensure that Kartik attends school regularly. With CWC's permission, Kartik was sent home on 23rd June 2022.

C. New Delhi Railway Station

5) Begging child requests to admit him in a long term care for his better future

Ishu was contacted by SATHI on 27th June 2022. The child lived with us for four months and this case study also reflects his transformation.

Ishu (10 years) was found roaming aimlessly around Delhi station. His clothes were dirty, he was unkempt and looked unhygienic. When questioned he said that he had come to roam around the station and beg. Ishu was taken to the shelter. He was asked to have a bath and eat. A clean and refreshed Ishu was then called for counselling. The child told us that his family's occupation was begging. People of all ages begged and his father had a street stall. They had shifted from Maharashtra to Delhi 6 years back.

Ishu also gave us his family address. The family lived in shanties below a bridge in Patel Nagar, Delhi. We visited the house and true to what Ishu had said, this was an extended family of beggars. Children were uncared for, they didn't go to school, there was no guidance and many of the young children (including Ishu) were addicted to substances.

SATHI was convinced that this was an unhealthy environment for the child and he would also get caught in the cycle of poverty. Hence we recommended to the CWC that Ishu should be placed in a suitable long-term shelter.

The CWC did not agree and asked us to retain Ishu at the shelter. Ishu was involved in NFE activities and he learnt numbers, and letters and also started reading. Meanwhile, Ishu's family who knew where he was started visiting the shelter frequently. They demanded we hand over the child.

Ishu also wanted to go back home. But keeping the best interest of the child in mind, SATHI kept the family at bay. Parallely we also started counselling Ishu and made him understand how a good environment and education can help him build a better life for himself.

Months passed, Ishu's family kept coming, the CWC didn't take a decision and Ishu continued living and studying at the SATHI shelter. We saw a positive change in the child's behaviour and he was also outgrowing his urges to take addictive substances.

Ishu himself started liking a structured life and expressed a desire to be placed in a home. On the next visit to the CWC (19th Oct 2022), we mentioned the same to the CWC members. The CWC then referred him to Bal Sahyog for a long-term stay and shelter. Ishu now lives there looking forward to a better future.

6) True reason came to know only during reunion with his mother - child helped from New Delhi Railway Station

On 17th August 2022, we met Dilkhush at the Delhi railway station. Aged about 12-years, Dilkhush was alone. When we spoke to him, he said that he had come to Delhi to roam around. Though young, the boy was confident and not worried in the least.

At the shelter, Dilkhush again told us the same thing. He also said that he travelled very often by train so he didn't worry. Dilkhush told us that he was from Madhubani in Bihar. However, he couldn't give a proper address. Apart from his parents, Dilkhush had 4 siblings and he also said that he had never attended formal school.

Dilkhush was an unruly boy. He wasn't used to following instructions and he fought with the boys at the shelter. For the first few days, we kept him away from the other children. The counsellor spent a lot of time with him and slowly we saw a transformation in the child.

Dilkhush was also engaged in the NFE classes and he found them interesting. He was illiterate and soon started learning the alphabet and numbers.

Dilkhush wanted to go back home so we started tracing his address using the internet and by calling various police stations. But nothing yielded results. SATHI then contacted the DCPU in Madhubani. A representative from that unit spoke to Dilkhush and asked him questions about the area of his home. With this information, he conducted a social investigation report (SIR) and traced Dilkhush's family.

On 18th October, two months after we found Dilkhush, his family came to the shelter. It was an emotional reunion. The family told us that they had given up hopes of finding the station. Dilkhush's mother asked him how he landed in Delhi. He told her that he had slept in the train, missed the station and came to Delhi instead. This was a surprise for us because until then Dilkhush had told us he was in Delhi to sight-see.

SATHI also got to know that Dilkhush's maternal aunt lived in a place called Jay Nagar and that the children often visited her. They travelled alone. They were advised not to send the children without an adult companion. We then showed the family Dilkhush's progress in the 3Rs (reading, writing and arithmetic). We told them that they should enrol their child in a school so he could continue his education.

On the same day, after completing all necessary procedures, Dilkhush was sent home.

7) Girl child Delhi rescue drive

We rescued a 15 year old girl during the rescue drive. Initially, she told us that her parents had died and that she is married and lives in Panipat with her husband. She had come to Delhi to visit her sick sister. She also told us that she is returning to Panipat and she was waiting for her husband at the station. Our team members suspected that she was hiding something when she was not able to produce any of her or her husband's ID or proof of her marriage.

After counseling the girl, she showed us her phone which had the Aadhaar card of the girl's parents. After some time, the girl confirmed that her parents were alive and also gave their phone numbers. We spoke to her mother and called her to the station. The girl's mother told that all of them live in Panipat and work in a mask factory. The girl was facing some psychological issues and got emotional quickly. We learnt that the mother had beaten the girl a day before and that's why the girl ran away from the home in anger. We made the mother understand that she should send the girl for counseling and treat her with patience. After verifying the IDs of both the mother and the girl and after completing both their counseling, the girl was sent home with her mother.

4.2. Cases of Children and Families helped in Covid Project

A. Chikkaballapur District, Karnataka

1) Bindushree and Gayithriamma

Family Background:

Late Gangadharappa worked as a carpenter and was the sole breadwinner of the family. He did not have a workshop but traveled to building sites to carry out carpentry projects. Gangadharappa continued working even as the covid pandemic was raging and eventually he tested positive. He was hospitalized for over a month, but the treatment was not successful and he passed away in May 2021. At the young age of 32, Gayatri Amma was widowed with the responsibility of supporting her mother-in-law and daughter. She was a homemaker who had hardly stepped out of home since her husband looked after all the financial needs. She also has difficulty walking because one of her legs is afflicted by polio. She has a brother who is source of emotional support and also helps her with grains grown on this farm, but is unable to provide much financial help. We understand that Gangadharappa had another wife and two children who live in the same village. He may have been supporting this second family as well.

Gangadharappa was a senior craftsman and earned 20K to 25K per month. The family also had 2 cows and they earned an income by selling about 10 liters of milk per day. However, Gayatri Amma, after her husband passed away, could no longer look after the cows because of her disability, and sold the cows. The family received a compensation of Rs 50,000/- from the Government of Karnataka. Gayatri Amma receives a disability pension of Rs 1200/- per month. This wasn't enough to sustain the family and she was worried about her daughter's future.

Bindushree attended primary school at Kuvempu Government Primary School at Cheemangala, which was 10 km away from her village and didn't have a school van facility. The daily transportation cost was Rs 30, which the family couldn't afford now. Bindushree was irregular to school when she was in 7th std.

SATHI Intervention:

SATHI identified the family and started working with them in April 2022. We provided a one-time learning kit to Bindushree and groceries to her family. Subsequently, we had multiple counseling sessions with the family to understand their situation and identify needs.

We secured admission for Bindushree in Sumukha High School in H Cross, which is closer to her village. We appealed to the school and managed to secure free transportation for Bindushree. We have also supported her with school fees. We are now helping her apply for a Vidyasiri scholarship in the department of social welfare. Bindu is in 8th std and has bloomed under the guidance and support of SATHI. From a girl who was in sorrow we see her as a bright and happy girl attending school regularly. She has a dream to build her career into police and take care of her mother. She needs supplementary coaching to improve her academic performance. We are working to identify a resource person nearby who could coach and mentor her.

Gayithriamma is interested in setting up a small poultry or sheep/goat venture that she could physically manage with her condition. We provided her Rs. 25,000 towards this purpose. She has purchased lambs with this money and is raising them successfully.

2) Kruthikashree&Harashit Kumar

Family Background:

Nagarajappa was the main provider for the family. He established a rental power loom machine at home and produced raw material cloth in bulk. He earned up to INR 10K per month after deducting all the costs of running loom. Varalakshmi was a housewife and took care of the two children and looked after the house. Nagarajappa contracted covid during the 2nd wave and was admitted to a private hospital in Chintamani. He underwent 15 days of treatment in the hospital which cost the family over Rs. 4 lakhs. Nagarajappa however passed away in May 2021. Soon after his death, his brother disowned Varalakshmi, his wife, and his two children and refused to support them in any way. Varalakshmi's younger brother supported the family financially for about six months, whereupon he stopped helping as well. Varalakshmi, a homemaker, now had to look for ways to support her family. The family had one cow, which was the only source of income. Elder son Harashit Kumar, was studying in 1st PUC at a private college. He considered dropping out to support his mother and younger sister. Varalakshmi worried about the future of two children's education and her livelihood to take care of their daily needs.

SATHI Intervention:

SATHI's team completed a detailed assessment of Varalakshmi's family and started providing counseling to her and her children to cope with the events and trauma through multiple conversations. We provided learning kits for two children and groceries for the family. Our team tried to secure some discounts for the children's school and college fees. However, the institutions declined because they had provided concessions of up to 80% the previous year. SATHI has paid 50% annual college and school fees to pursue education for the academic year 2022-2023 in the 10th std and 12th std. We have also helped the two children apply for multiple private and government caste-based, labour-card-based and DCPU half-orphan scholarships. We helped Varalakshmi explore livelihood opportunities. She was familiar with the weaving work that her husband did and wanted to take it up herself. We provided financial support of Rs. 20,000 to establish the look at home.

B. Bangalore Rural

1) Aditya, Manosh and Manjula's family

Family Background:

Manjula's family lost Devaraj to covid during the first Covid 19 pandemic outbreak. She and her husband worked as daily waged labor in the agriculture field (Ragi) and earned Rs.700/- together per day. The family was able to manage the earnings they made together and sent both kids to private school to give them a good education. Devaraj was infected with Covid 19 and was admitted in Doddadunnasandra government hospital. Later he was referred to Covid hospital where he passed away. After Devaraja's death, his brothers started fighting for land and took all of their property from Manjula and left them alone. Manjula couldn't even pay her husband's hospital fee. Manjula along with her children are staying in an outhouse of her in-laws. Aditya and Manosh both were studying in Sharada Public School. Devaraj's death brought an immense burden on Manjula to manage house expenses, children education, medical expenses, etc.

Manosh, who is studying in 10th std. in Sharada Public School, is proactive and excellent in his education. He as a son, motivates his mother to be strong and focuses on his studies so that he can grow up and take care of his mother Manjula & his brother Aditya. Aditya goes to 5th std. and he is also an active child who is also good at studies.

SATHI Intervention:

We observed their family condition and supported them to pay for both children's school fees. Manosh is good at studies, so we have helped him apply for scholarships from SBI and a government caste

scholarship. We enrolled Aditya in a coaching center to prepare him for Navodaya school entrance exam and paid Rs.7,500/- as tuition fee. We counseled Manjula extensively on her mental health. She needed a hope to live and her hope is her children. Once in a while she gets silk worm work where she earns Rs.500/- per day. Otherwise she earns Rs.350 on a daily basis or sometimes she may not get any work. We ensured that she withdraws money from her widow pension account regularly to avoid cancellation of her pension. She is receiving Rs. 800 per month widow pension regularly. To supplement her daily wage work, we helped her establish a goat husbandry venture by providing an initial financial support of Rs. 20,000 for purchasing the goats. This venture requires minimum effort from her and she can continue her daily wage work. Manjula is firm about educating her children and making them capable of leading a good life. We encouraged her to break through her fears and do things independently. By our constant counseling and motivation, Manjula goes out alone and gets things done without anyone's help. On the other hand, seeing his mother's courage, Manosh has been doing well in his academics too. Manosh has a dream to join a good government job when he grows up and takes care of his family. He takes care of his younger brother in the absence of his mother when she is out for work. The family is coming out of the trauma slowly.

2) Madhu, Vivek and Vinoda's family

Family Background:

Vinoda's family lost Krishnappa to covid during the first Covid 19 pandemic outbreak. Her husband was a driver who supplied vegetables to shops and markets. Vinoda was a housewife. The family was able to manage the earnings made and sent both kids to school to give them the education. Krishnappa's father was affected by Covid 19 and later Krishnappa himself got infected and was admitted in a government hospital. Later, he was referred to Covid hospital after 4 days, where he passed away. After Krishnappa's death, Madhu dropped out of his ITI studies and started working as a driver and giving his earnings to his mother. Vivek is studying in 10th std. at a government school. Vinoda couldn't even pay her children's fees and other education expenses and was in a helpless condition. Krishnappa's death brought an immense burden on Vinoda to manage house expenses, children education, etc.

SATHI Intervention:

We observed their family condition and supported Madhu to continue his studies. Madhu joined his ITI course again and is working towards completing it. Vivek was helped with education material for his studies and we also helped him apply for a government caste scholarship. Vinoda had applied for the widow pension but failed to get it. So we are helping her to get the pension payments started regularly, which is under process. We also helped Vinoda with Rs.15,000/- for purchasing a tailoring machine. Tailoring was her hobby before marriage and she wants to make it a source of her livelihood. Now she is earning 100 to 150 per day through minor tailoring jobs and keeps the earnings for her savings. We helped her enroll in a free tailoring training class free of cost, where she is learning advanced skills. Vinoda is firm about educating her children and making her children capable of leading a good life. Vinoda is staying with her children in her own house.

C. Pune

1) Dipika's Family

Family Background:

Dipika's family lost Devaji to covid during the second Covid 19 pandemic outbreak. Her husband was doing fencing work in Pune city on contract basis and earning Rs.15000/- together per month. Dipika was a house wife and taking care of the children and home. They were able to manage their house and children's education. She has 2 children - daughter is studying in 8th std and son is in 5th std.

Dipika's husband Devaji was infected with covid 19 during the second wave and was admitted in a private hospital. His family spent all their savings for his treatment but could not save him. After Devaji's death no one came forward to support Dipika and children. Dipika was suffering from some illness. During this critical situation they faced financial issues. Nearly 5 to 6 months Dipika didn't do any kind of job. When Devaji was alive, he took out a loan and purchased a house. Fortunately after the death of Devaji, the family claimed home loan insurance and got the full loan amount. Dipika started working as a home maid at the nearby place and started earning Rs.3000/- per month. This income is too less compared to previous income. So many expenses were uncovered including children's school fees. So Dipika sold her gold ornaments and cleared half school fees for both children. In the remaining amount, she managed to buy grocery and medical expenses. After the death of Devaji, the family also received Rs.50,000/- from PM covid Care scheme.

Intervention and Outcome

After the death of Devaji, his wife Dipika was very depressed. She did not know how to handle the situation. We counselled her and tried to motivate and assured to help her. When we assessed the family's condition, we came to know that this year the school will not allow her children to sit for the exam till they clear the fees of this year. SATHI decided to help Dipika's children with a fee of Rs. 18,000/- to Devika who is studying in 8th std. and Rs.18,500/- to Aditya who is studying in 5th std.

Dipika was not aware of widow pension and other social protection schemes. So she did not apply for any of them. SATHI helped her apply for widow pension, Bal Sangopan Yojana, etc.

Now Dipika is relieved as their children's fees are paid and her income can be used for food and other household expenses.

2) Siddesh Family

Family Background:

Siddesh is a 15 year old boy studying in 9th std. His sister Devika is studying in 8th std. Both are good in studies. Siddesh's father Umesh passed away due to covid. He was a driver in a school bus and looking after his family. He was the only earning person in the family. Mother Ratna is a homemaker. When Ratna's husband expired, she felt insecure and lonely, and didn't know what to do for the financial security of the house. After the death of Umesh, the family also received Rs.50,000/- from PM covid Care scheme. They have their own house. Ratna wanted to give a good future to her children. So she thought of continuing the same profession as her husband and learnt driving. She got a driver's job in the same school where her late husband was working.

Intervention and Outcome

When we assessed the family, we came to know that fees of Devika was supported by one of their relatives, but Siddesh's fees of Rs.7,000/- is pending. So we decided and cleared the fees of Siddesh to continue his education. We also help the family with groceries.

Ratna was already enrolled for widow pension, so we helped her only for Balsangopan scheme documentation.

4.3 Cases from Education Project

A. Pune CCI

- 1) **Sairaj** is twelve years old and has been living in Bal Asha Ghar Nadgaon - Sampark CCI for the past two years. His mother was a single parent who was not able to take care of him. She herself is living in a shelter in Hadapsar, Pune. He is studying in 4th standard. His favourite subject is Marathi and he regularly

participates in school sports such as high jump, long jump and running race. Also he is best in karate and he received Best Taekwondo Player Award 2022 in his school.

At the time we started the online class, Sairaj was not as good at maths as he is now. However, it turns out that Sairaj was naturally good at Maths and what he needed was some structured teaching to develop his interest and ability. SATHI's classes did just that. Seeing other kids attend classes regularly, participating in the discussion and asking questions, he too got interested in the subject. He attends classes regularly and actively learns math concepts covered in the classes. He got B-2 in Maths when he was in 3rd standard and now he got A-1 and A-2 in his first test of 4th.

- 2) **Mahesh** has been living in Mauli Kripa CCI for three years. Earlier he lived in Yerwada slum, Ashok Nagar. His mother passed away when he was young and his father is addicted to alcohol. So there was no one to look after him. He had to beg to feed himself. At that time, Vidya Dalvi, a social worker there, admitted Mahesh to Mauli Kripa. At that time he was 12 years old as per date of birth. So he was admitted in class V under RTE Act as per date of birth. But he could not read or write anything. This year he is studying in class 7th.

The atmosphere in the CCI, the school, and the online classes of SATHI made him interested in learning. He began to like the online classes he was taking and the activities in them, and at the same time he started attending every class. Also his latent qualities such as his interest in drawing cartoons, making colorful flowers out of paper, reading and playing sports began to flourish. Since the start of SATHI's online classes, he became interested in studies and mathematics. Last year he had 47 marks in maths, but in the 7th std midterm exams he got 64 marks. At the same time, he got the second rank in the school. He enjoys the online classes and his progress is reflected in the tests he takes.

B. Karnataka NTSE - NTSE program is to identify bright students from govt. schools from small villages / towns and coach them for competition exam for 2 years in 9th and 10th std.

- 1) **Chinmayi** lives in a village called Doddaguni in Gubbi taluk, Tumkur district. Her father completed his MA and mother has studied up to PUC. Chinmayi is their only child. Her father is a farmer and maintains the family coconut farm. He earns about Rs. 60,000 per year.

Chinmayi studies in Girls' Government Junior School Gubbi which is about 25km away from her home. She travels about 3 hours every day using Govt. bus to her school and back. She secured 104/180 marks in NMMS exam. Her ambition is to make a career in Astrophysics.

She got 3rd prize in 200 meters running at district level. 1st prize in state-level Yuva Samsath competition. 1st prize in quiz competition at taluk level. 1st prize in science speech competition at district level. She has passed 2 levels of Rashtrorothana Parishat tests.

- 2) **Rahul Melavanki** lives in Satish nagar, Gokak taluk, Belgaum district. His father works as a shopkeeper and earns around Rs. 20,000 per month. His mother is a homemaker. Together they have 3 children, 2 boys and 1 girl.

He is studying in Adarsha Vidyalaya RMSA Khangaon. His school is about 30 km from home and he travels by public transport. The school is quite far and he has to spend nearly 3 hours on travel everyday. Yet, he is dedicated to his education and secured 89% in 9th std exams and also secured 109/180 marks in NMMS exam. He cleared 1st level of Rashtrorothana Parishat test, a state level exam for govt school

students in 10th. He also participates in many extracurricular activities at both state and district level. He got 2nd prize in taluk level science exhibition and throw ball game. He aspires to become NDA officer.

C. Maharashtra

- 1) **Shravni** lives in a village located about 35 km from Kolhapur with a population of about 4000 people. Both parents have completed their education up to 10th std. Shravni also has one older brother who is studying Science in 1st PUC. Her father is a farmer and her mother has always been a housewife. The family survives on a limited income from farming. The parents have always encouraged their children to study and ensure that their educational needs are met.

Shravni studies in a government school which is about 4 km away from her home. She travels by bus for about 30 mins and then walks a bit to reach her school everyday. She has secured A1 grade in the 8th std exams. She also secured outstanding 163/180 (90%) marks in the National Means cum-Merit Scholarship (NMMS) exam and received the scholarship.

- 2) **Mansi** lives in a small village located about 100 km from Pune with a population of about 1000 people. She lives with her parents and two younger sisters. Both parents have completed their education up to 10th std. Her father works as a petrol pump attendant and her mother has always been a housewife.

The closest school to Mansi's village is about 6 km away. Because there are no proper transportation facilities available, Mansi often walks for an hour to reach her school. Yet she is dedicated to her studies. She has secured A1 grade in the 8th std exams. She also secured 138/180 (76%) marks in the NMMS exam and received the scholarship. She manages to study on her own without any tuition or coaching.

Both Shravni and Mansi joined our program about a month ago. We have started online classes for a batch of 32 students of which Shravani and Manasi are a part. While the overarching goal is to prepare them for competitive exams like NTSE, the focus of our coaching is to develop conceptual clarity. We use NCERT exemplar books and NTSE guides. The questions in these books are trickier and tougher than those in the textbook and are excellent for practice. Our experience from training students with these resources for the last two years in Karnataka has been excellent. The students, on one hand develop confidence to appear for competitive exams and are also prepared to excel their 10th std board exams. We are sure we can add both Shravni and Mansi to these success stories in two years' time.

5. Governance and Administration

Head Office of SATHI is situated at Bangalore. We have branch offices for accounts at New Delhi, Pune and Yeshwanthpur. We are running 2 ICPS Open Shelters at New Delhi and Pune and 2 Railway Childlines at Pune and Yeshwanthpur. This year we have supported children and their families under the project of “We Care for You” – A support system for COVID-19 affected children belonging to financially marginalised families at Chikkaballapur and Bangalore Rural districts of Karnataka. The same project we have started in Pune, Maharashtra in March 2023.

5.1. Annual General Body Meeting

Annual General Body Meeting of SATHI was held on 21st September 2022 at SATHI Office, Mathikere, Bangalore. The meeting was attended by Governing Board members Mrs. Archana Nambiar, Mr. Rajiv Kuchhal, Mrs. Narmada Anand, Mr. Ashwin Patil, Mrs. Srividhya Kotangale, Mr. Vineet Raichur along with SATHI Secretary Mr. Pramod Kulkarni. Mr. P. B. Ramamurthy was absent for the meeting. The Audit Report was submitted to all the members and the financial statements for the annual filing of returns to Registrar of Societies were approved by the board along with continuation of Shenoy & Kamath Chartered Accountants as auditor for the year 2022 – 23.

5.2. Governing Body Meetings

Date of Meeting	Place of the meeting	Members attended	Major Issues discussed
2nd August 2022	SATHI Office, Mathikere, Bangalore	04	- Approval of Statement of Accounts and Annual Report for the year 2021 - 22 - Appointment of Mr. Pramod Kulkarni, as Chief Executive Officer of SATHI and Sri. Srinivas R. Mahishi as Resource Mobilizer with effect from 3rd August 2022. - Acceptance of the resignation of Dr. Lalitha Iyer for the post of Chairperson and & member of the Governing Board of SATHI. - Appointment of Dr. Vineet Raichur for the vacant place on the Governing Board.
9th August 2022	SATHI Office, Mathikere, Bangalore	05	- Appointment of Mrs. Archana Nambiar as Chairperson for the vacant post of Chairperson after the resignation of Dr. Lalitha Iyer - Appointment of Mrs. Srividya Kotangale for the vacant place on the Governing Board.
10th March 2023	SATHI Office, Mathikere, Bangalore	05	Opening a bank account for receiving funds for ICPS Open Shelter Program at Pune, Maharashtra

5.3. List of Governing Board Members for the year 2022 - 23

Sl. No.	Name	Age	Qualification	Designation	Profession	Address
1.	Mrs. Archana Nambiar	46	Masters in Social Work	Chairperson	Development Consultant	701 A, Esteem Enclave, Arekere, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore – 560 076 Mob: +91 9986027764 archanaanambiar@gmail.com
2	Mr. Rajiv Kuchhal	57	Electrical Engineering from IIT, New Delhi	Vice Chairperson	General Partner, and Investment Committee member at Exfinity Venture Partners	# 41, 4th B Main, Koramangala Industrial Area, 5th Block, Bangalore – 560 095 Mob : +91-80-41313201 rajivk008@gmail.com
3.	Mrs. Srividhya Kotangale	44	Masters in Extension Education, 2000 at SNDT Women's University - Mumbai	Treasurer	Founder - My Margdarshak Trust	F. No. P 501, Rohan Jharoka 2, Yamalur Main Road, Bangalore South, Bangalore – 560 037 Mob: +91 9900579788 vidhyaiyer08@gmail.com
4.	Mr. Ashwin Patil	40	BTech in Mechanical Engineering with an MBA in marketing and holds an Exec Program in General Management from IIM Ahmadabad	Member	Entrepreneur	D 726, Brigade Wistria, Kanakapura Road, Udaypur Post, Bangalore – 560 082 Mob: +91 7619121751 ashwin.patil82@gmail.com
5.	Mr. P. B. Ramamurthy	66	Post Graduation in Agricultural Sciences and Forestry	Member	Retired IAS Office as Additional Chief Secretary to GoK	# 25, Krishna Gardenia Apartment, 5 th Main Road, New BEL Road, RMV 2 nd Stage, Bangalore – 560 094 Mob: +91 9845517197 pbrmurthi@gmail.com
6.	Mrs. Narmada Anand	63	MSc	Member	Retired Project Director, DWCD	# 62, Madhava Nilaya, Mountain Street, Near Madhavan Park, Jayanagar 1 st Block East, Bangalore – 560 011 Mob: +91 9480354409 narmadananda@gmail.com
7.	Dr. Vineet Raichur	36	PhD in the Design Science Program from the University of Michigan, USA	Member	Project Head – SATHI	# 380, 19 th G Main Road, 1 st N Block, Rajajinagar, Rajajinagar PO, Bangalore – 560 010 Mob: +91 99165 36314 vineetr@umich.edu

8.	Mr. Pramod Kulkarni	67	IIM Ahmedabad	Secretary, Ex-Officio	Social Worker	'Utpal', No. 42, Muneshwara Layout, Achyut Nagar, Tammenahalli, Bangalore Mob: +919845456767 pramodkulkarni4@gmail.co m
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6. Statutory & Regulatory Compliance.

SI No	Area	Due date	Status
1	Society registration	Registered on 31 st March 1997. Due for renewal is 30 days from the date of AGM.	Complied-renewed up to 31 st March 2024
2	PAN No.	AADTS 8765K	
3	Certificate under 12A of Income Tax Act	Renewed on 28.05.2021	Valid up to AY 2026-27
4	Tax Exemption Under 80G	Renewed on 28.05.2021	Valid up to AY 2024-25
5	Certification under FCRA Act	Renewed in September 2022	Valid upto 30 th September 2027
6	FCRA returns to Home Ministry for FY 2022-23 (Annual)	31 st Dec 2023	Complied-Filed on 22 nd Dec 2023
7	Income Tax Annual Returns for FY 2022-23 (Annual)	31 st October 2023	Complied- Filed on 20 th Oct 2023
8	Recovery and remittance of Tax Deducted at Source (Monthly)	Due Date: 7 th day of the following month	Strictly adhered
9	TDS Returns (Quarterly)	Due date: 30 days from Qtr end	Strictly adhered
10	FCRA Quarterly Fund Receipts intimation	Due Date: 15 th days from the quarter end	complied
11	Recovery and remittance of Provident Fund (Monthly)	Due Date: 15 th day of the following month	Remitted on or before 15 th of following month
12	Recovery and remittance of Professional Tax (Monthly)	Due Date: 20 th day of the following month	Remitted on or before 20 th of following month
13	PT Annual return	31 st May 2023	filled in May 2023

7. SATHI in News

News coverage of Delhi Rescue Drive

- Times of India - [409 runaway kids rescued from New Delhi railway station in 7-day drive](#)
- NDTV - [400 Children Rescued From Delhi Railway Station, Sent To Child Care Homes](#)
- India Today - [34 girls among 400 children rescued from New Delhi Railway Station](#)

Our founder Pramod Kulkarni won the Amazing Indian award in the Shelter Management category

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=REJUFF9oPKw>

<https://www.timesnownews.com/india/amazing-indians-award-pramod-kulkarni-has-sheltered-and-brought-back-the-smile-for-thousands-of-destitute-children-article-94099486>