



# INDIAN CENTRE FOR INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT (ICID)

*Inspiring, enabling, empowering children, youth and women*

## NEWSLETTER

May 2023

Dear friends,

Warm greetings of peace and love!

We hope this newsletter finds you in excellent health and high spirits. We are delighted to update you on the impactful work being carried out by our organization. With your unwavering support, we continue to make a positive difference in the lives of children, youth, women, and communities facing significant challenges. In this edition, we bring you some of the program updates and achievements from the past five months:

### **Yuvajyothi Children's Hostel (YCH) - *Safeguarding and shaping the future of children in street and disadvantaged situations through a child rights approach:***

At ICID, we recognize children as active rights-holders and promote their empowerment, development, participation, and inclusion in all aspects of society. Thirty-six children found a nurturing environment at YCH that supported their rights and provided opportunities for holistic growth and development. All of them displayed a keen interest in formal education. One of the



boys, who was pursuing a diploma course in hotel management and catering, made the decision to switch to a short-term culinary arts course (2 months) in March 2023. This choice led to his selection as an assistant to the chef at a prestigious hotel in Mumbai. The four boys in Class 10 who appeared for their board final exams have successfully cleared them with impressive results: Aditya Pahune scored 76%, Ashraf Khan achieved 66%, Ayush Kakodiya secured 62%, and Ganesh Shau attained 54%. In Class 12, Anush Urkude obtained a score of 62%, while Devesh Banote scored 55%.

Currently, we have four boys enrolled in a four-month course on basic computer education. Additionally, fifteen boys are actively participating in a spoken English course conducted at YCH by an external resource person.

### **URJA - *Empowering socio-economically disadvantaged urban women through sustainable***



***livelihood options:*** By the end of March 2023, a group of 101 women successfully completed their training in garment making across four centres. Sixty-two of them have already secured employment, earning approximately INR 4,000 to INR 6,000 per month. The project steering committees at all centres played a vital role in facilitating successful project

activities. Regular monthly meetings were organized with the program participants. In February, two health clinics were conducted in collaboration with local medical practitioners, benefitting 94 trainees. These clinics focused on educating the participants about women's reproductive health. Furthermore, in January 2023, we celebrated the birth anniversary of Savitribai Fule, a pioneering figure in women's education in India, at two centres.

**CHILDLINE 1098 - A 24-hour emergency helpline for children in distress:** Our dedicated Childline team intervened in 58 cases involving rescue from abuse (physical, emotional, and sexual), child marriage, medical support, provision of shelter, and emotional guidance. The team reached out to over 2,600 individuals in slum communities, raising awareness about Childline and child rights. Five open house programs were conducted, involving 105 children and their parents, to raise awareness about child sexual exploitation. Additionally, five awareness programs were organized, with 157 children and adults participating, focusing on creating a safe environment for children.

**Kishori - Empowering marginalized adolescent girls for enhanced reproductive health and resilience towards gender equality in Nagpur City:** The Kishori program has had a significant impact on the lives of

approximately 320 adolescent girls across 20 slum communities. Our Kishori team visited 696 families, raising awareness about girl child rights, education, health, and safety. A total of 57 meetings were held with adolescent girls, fostering interactive discussions on reproductive health, the



importance of education, and the safety of girl children in their communities. Life skill sessions on self-awareness, critical thinking, effective communication, and problem-solving were conducted with 17 groups comprising 192 adolescent girls.

**Non-Communicable Disease Awareness Program (NCD):** Over the past few months, our NCD team, consisting of five members, worked in 26 slum communities, reaching out to 6,400



families and creating awareness about non-communicable diseases. They identified 840 individuals with diabetes, oral cancer, asthma, and high blood pressure and provided them with counselling support. Awareness on non-communicable diseases was disseminated through 30 group

talks involving 333 participants in 13 communities, 50 exhibitions engaging 681 people in 15 communities, and 14 community awareness and competition events attended by 469 individuals from various communities.

**Deepshikha:** Children from indigenous Gond communities have been benefiting from the facilities offered at the centre. Thirty-five children below the age of six have been attending

play school, while 25 children from the community have been utilizing the library and indoor game facilities.

We celebrated **National Girl Child Day** in January 2023, with the participation of 360 adolescent girls from different program areas of our organization. The program focused on the theme "Digital Generation, Our Generation" and featured lively interactive sessions, panel discussions, and question-and-answer sessions addressing gender equality, girl child safety, holistic healthcare, and educational opportunities for girls. Leaders from various groups shared the challenges they face in their daily lives, and a health camp was organized for the participants. The girls also showcased their talents with Bollywood music-inspired dances.



On March 5th, 2023, we celebrated **International Women's Day** with active participation from approximately 450 women in our program areas. The program theme was "DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality." Invited experts conducted interactive sessions with the women on topics such as gender equality, internet safety, economic independence, legal aid, and healthcare. Additionally, a free medical camp was organized, providing valuable healthcare services to the participants. The day was made memorable with stage performances, including dance and songs, by the attendees.

**Summer Camps:** We organized four summer camps, each lasting four days, across four centres for 242 adolescent girls from 12 slum communities. The camps featured interactive



sessions on cyber safety, child trafficking, legal aid, personal hygiene, and career guidance, conducted by external resource persons, including police personnel. Other activities included Zumba dance, Bollywood dance, mehndi competitions, action songs, games, and craft activities. The

participants actively engaged in group discussions and presentations, making the camps a valuable learning experience.

Once again, we extend our heartfelt appreciation for your continued support in all our programs. We are grateful for the trust you place in us and we also value our partnership in making a difference in the lives of those who need it the most. May God bless you, your families, and your endeavours.

With gratitude and warm regards,

Fr. Herald Dsouza OP  
Director  
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