

NEWS AND VIEWS

CHANGE MAKERS

A NEWSLETTER BY CHILDREN'S HOPE INDIA



BE A PART OF THE CHANGE

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

TOGETHER, WE CAN

A NEW PROJECT: CHI - CUFFE PARADE

The Colaba transit camp is surrounded by four slum communities: Babasaheb Ambedkar Nagar, Back Bay, Ganesh Murti Nagar and Babasaheb Ambedkar Nagar Extension; it comprises of app. 10,000 families, and has a population of around 50,000. This community is home to mainly migrants working as daily wage laborers. The center will start in fall 2024, serving app. 500 beneficiaries with Early Childhood Education and Remedial Learning, along with SMCL (Science, Math, Computer and Language).



SHE SHINES, WITH CHI - ANAND PARBAT

The She Shine Kishori Sashaktikaran Jagrukta Karyakaram project aims to empower adolescent girls by addressing various issues that affect well-being and development. Through a series of monthly events, girls are equipped with knowledge, skills, and support to navigate the challenges they face and to help them realize their full potential. Each monthly event focusses on a specific theme, ranging from menstrual hygiene, career awareness to financial literacy, and many more; the goal is to raise awareness and promote positive change.



LEADING WITH CONFIDENCE

Children's Hope India Girls School Bhopal organized the Oath Taking Ceremony for the incoming student council with a lot of enthusiasm. In order to inculcate leadership qualities amongst students, this council is formed every year. The newly elected council members were honored with badges and sashes by Shri Siddh Bhauji, Mr. Ghanshyam Boolchandani and Mr. Gopal Girdhani. The oath was administered to the elected members by Mrs. Priya Jain Sharma, Principal of CHIGS. All elected students will take charge of their respective responsibilities with immediate effect, as they look forward to a year of accomplishments.



EVENTS IN FOCUS

Spring Luncheon

Children's Hope India's annual luncheon fundraiser was a true celebration of color, love, and generosity! 350+ lovely ladies came together for an afternoon of laughter, joy and shopping to support CHI's newest project, the CHI 30/30 Educational Initiative. A marketplace showcasing products of several women entrepreneurs created buzz and drew buyers in huge numbers.

Our Woman of Distinction was Roopa Unnikrishnan, and we facilitated two Rising Stars - Jeena Raghavan and Avani Sarkar. Hats off to the CHI's Luncheon Benefit Committee; their creativity and tireless efforts made the event an outstanding success.



Works of art and inspiration

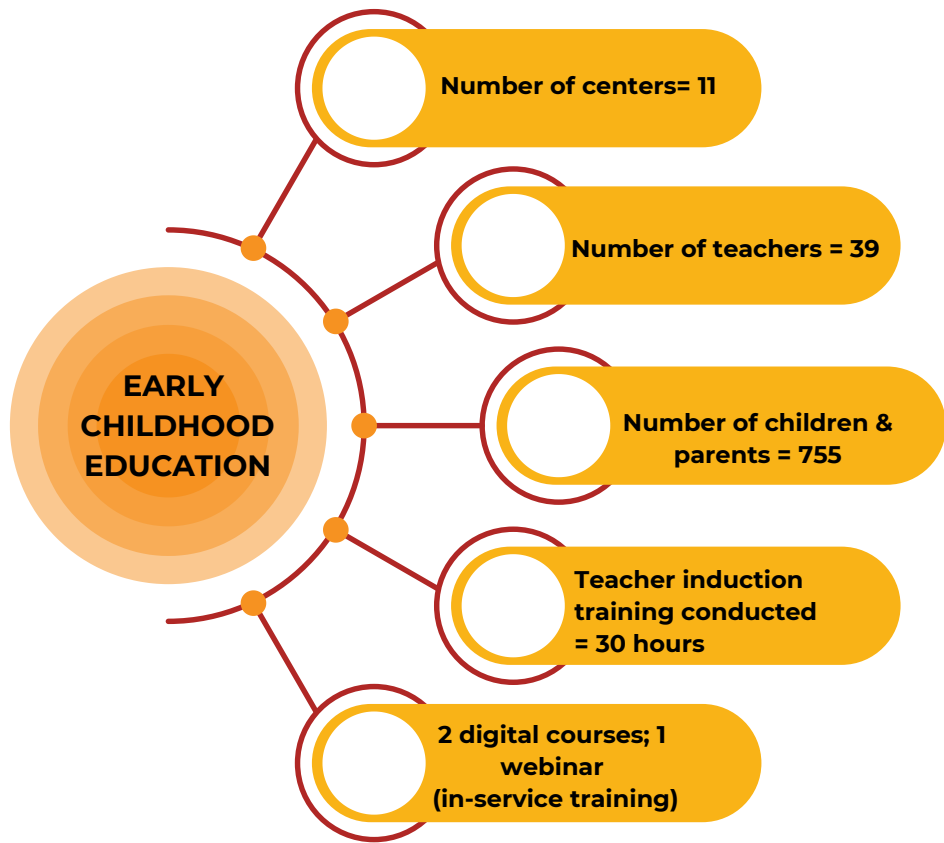
The Amar Nath Sehgal Private Collection initiated art workshops with children and students, age group four onwards. The first was organized in August 2023, and ever since nine workshops have been conducted over twelve months. More than 200 students have created beautiful art works in several different art mediums at the museum.

These workshops have helped children to explore and hone their creative capabilities through unlimited materials, experiential learning, expert guidance, as well as complete freedom to be themselves on paper or otherwise. The approach is holistic rather than just educational. After every workshop, all creations are framed and presented to the students. This allows children to take pride in their creations and carry back home a framed artwork. CHI schools put up these artworks in their classrooms or common spaces, which serve as motivation and encouragement.

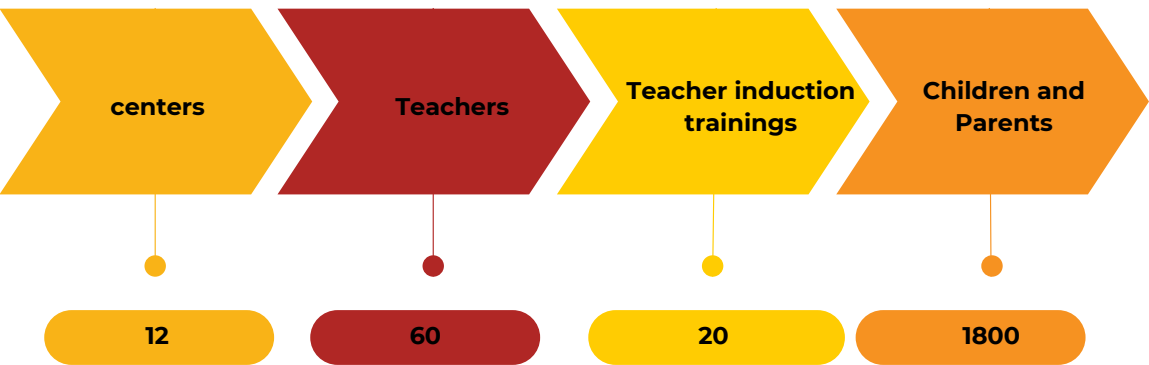


NOT JUST NUMBERS, IMPACTING LIVES

Children’s Hope India strives to secure wholesome child development and holistic growth for underserved children. This is based on the cradle to career approach supported by six pillars: early childhood education, remedial learning, health and nutrition, mental health, digital learning and career mapping.



REMEDIAL LEARNING



Note: Figures are as on 31st of August, 2024

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR MITHILA

"I had a wonderful childhood, thanks to the school I studied in. Not only did the teachers and other staff members always encourage us to be the better versions of ourselves, but supported us, like their own children, wherever they could. We were always told that one should dream big, and follow one's dreams towards realization. Nothing is impossible. Some day, I will open a school for children from underserved communities, so that they too can realize their dream. Right now, I am focusing on my dream: to join IIT, study Space Science Tech and work with ISRO." -- Mithila, student, CHI Ekalavya School



SELF BELIEF IS THE KEY FOR KAVERI

"I passed my Intermediate with 90% in Physics, Maths and Chemistry. My mother is a homemaker and my father a tailor. I don't think I would have been able to mitigate the teething challenges I faced when I began my intermediate; with the help of remedial learning classes, concepts became clear for me, and that was the turning point. My dream is to be an Indian Air Force officer, and serve my country. I believe that belief in the self is the most important thing, and, of course, hard work and determination." -- Kaveri, ex-student, CHI Ekalavya School



FIRST PERSON

FARAH KURANI

The CHI Sewri, Mumbai 30/30 Education Center, India gave me a profound perspective on the education imparted to underserved children. Walking into the school every day, I was greeted by smiling faces of children, aged three to nine, eager to learn despite the many challenges they faced. With limited school supplies, limited ventilation, no chairs or desks, these children still gave their all.

I organized various activities, including teaching the basics of addition and subtraction, reading books and discussing their content, playing action and spelling games, and conducting public speaking exercises. Initially, many children were frightened to stand in front of the class and share facts about themselves, fearing they would make a mistake. However, by spending individual time with each student, practicing with them, and boosting their confidence, they gradually overcame their fears of public speaking and achieved their goals.

During arts and crafts sessions, children were anxious as they felt everything needed to be perfect. I showed them that making mistakes is part of learning and growing, and it's okay to be imperfect. Slowly, they began to embrace this mindset and enjoyed the activities more freely. Each day, I witnessed remarkable improvements in their skills and confidence.

On the last day, I surprised them with new classroom materials, including colored pencils, a calendar, map, ball, books, chalk, and more. My aim was not just to teach these children for a few weeks but to show them the possibilities that education can unlock.

This experience has reinforced my dedication to creating a better learning environment for these children. Through Children's Hope India, I will continue to work towards providing them the resources and opportunities they deserve, ensuring they have the tools to succeed.



IN FOCUS

“My journey with Children’s Hope India began three decades ago, when my mom introduced me to a project implemented by the organization; the experience was such that it stuck with me, and I became a part of this movement of change. I helped with fundraising and awareness generation, domains which are critical for the cause and the greater good.

Recently, I visited India, and the CHAHAK Bindapur center; here, approximately 90 children, in the age group of 2-10 years, receive quality education. When I saw the hope and joy in the eyes of the children, it made me understand the qualitative impact of the work Children’s Hope India does for children; these children hail from underserved and vulnerable communities. I spent time with the kids, teaching and learning, playing and understanding, listening to their squeals of laughter and watching them smile and play.

My next stop was the CHI - Seelampur center, which provides pre-school education to around 70 toddlers; the objective is to prepare them for school. The experience was so freeing and so touching. I still carry those beautiful memories, and will always do so throughout my life.” -- **Aditi Gugnani Malhotra**



For over three decades, **Praina Kewlani** has been an unwavering supporter of Children Hope India’s mission, embodying kindness and compassion in the act of giving. Her philosophy has always been that giving is not just about offering financial support, but also about spreading joy. Praina’s consistent support ensures that children in our programs not only receive the tools they need to succeed, but also experience the simple joys of childhood. Her commitment to making children smile is at the heart of every gift to CHI. Praina’s warm and loving maternal instinct comes from being an amazing mom to Tesh and Kanishka, and she has also inspired them to volunteer and contribute to causes they are passionate about, like Children’s Hope India.

Ever since Praina walked in CHI’s very first fashion show 31 years ago, it was clear that her style and grace were just as strong as her sense of altruism. She has recently launched her own gold jewelry business, Nishika Jewels. This new chapter marks a fusion of her lifelong passions—crafting beauty and spreading happiness. With each piece, she aims to inspire others to find joy in both self-expression and timeless style.



AMBASSADORS OF CHANGE

CH2- YOUNG LEADERS FOR IMPACT

CH2 is a group of young professionals, with a wide range of interests, skills, and experience who work directly with the board members and staff of Children's Hope India to support and extend initiatives of the organization. The CH2 team organizes several networking and leadership events in New York City - helping to raise funds for a variety of programs and keep supporters connected and updated on CHI projects and activities.

Children's Hope India had an exciting opportunity to participate in the RetailROI at the Microsoft headquarters in NYC. This event brought together retail's most prominent thinkers for revealing discussions on retail technology, while also generating support for several global nonprofits dedicated to making an impact on the lives of children in need. CH2 members attended a networking welcome dinner on the eve and also organized a booth to share the Children's Hope mission with attendees. Run D.M.C.'s Darryl McDaniels was the keynote speaker and gave Children's Hope an extra special shout, showing his support for the organization!

On the calendar later in the summer: another meet and greet opportunity is being planned, with the funds being raised earmarked to support the continuing expansion of the CHI Early Childhood Learning centers. Yet another CH2 event is slated for November 2024. As our ambassadors, CH2 continues to help raise money, reach new donors, make a difference and become our next generation of leaders.

CH3 - CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN

The CH3 teams continue to grow, and currently the total strength stands at 40 members collectively with the Long Island and New Jersey/Manhattan teams. The next upcoming fundraiser for NJ and Manhattan will be at the Sadhu Vaswani Mela. Meanwhile, the CH3 Long Island team assembled 75 backpacks for distribution at shelters across Long Island, and is also planning a walkathon. Both teams have collectively sent 30 children from shelters to a seven-weeks summer camp; this was made possible with the funds raised by them. These camps help in empowering children with diverse skill sets, while also allowing them to have an enjoyable and fun summer. At the CHI Gala in October, team leaders were invited to volunteer, with the objective of observing and understanding how the Gala operates as a fundraiser for the organization.



OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS

Sarah Berry, Director - Communication and Partnerships

Sarah brings with her 29 years of professional experience. Post her last service at the Embassy of Switzerland, New Delhi (2014), where she served as the Official Coordinator for the celebration of bi-lateral ties between Switzerland and India, Sarah began her journey as a Consultant in the social impact sector, working with more than 25 NGOs; her areas of expertise are: communication, partnerships and external affairs, besides serving as an Editor too. Sarah has written more than 700 articles for mainlines, regionals, domain specific publications and digital media. She serves/d as a trustee and advisory board member for more than five NGOs.



Tamla Robins, Operations Manager

Tamla holds a Master's in Urban Affairs from Hunter College, with focus on nonprofit management. She has over 18 years experience in the nonprofit world. Her extensive experience includes working in higher education with programs that support the educational and professional development of vulnerable young people. She was a Program Coordinator at Columbia University's Workplace center. Tamla also served as the Program Coordinator at Hunter College's Public Service Scholar Program, and was a Program Administrator for the Liberty Partnership Programs at Hunter College and Columbia University.



BE A PART OF THE CHANGE

HERE'S WHY!



We have been impacting lives since three decades and invite you to be an Ambassador of Change by being a part of the CHI family.



Our projects strive to impact children, teachers, parents and the community, and, hence, serve long-term, positive and sustainable change.



Our diverse projects have something for everyone to contribute with.



Impact is gauged effectively, resulting in deep satisfaction and a sense of contentment

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN BE THE CHANGE



Write to: sarah@childrenshopeindia.org



www.childrenshopeindia.org