

**Hamara Foundation**

1st April, 2018 – 31st March, 2019

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**INTRODUCTION:**

Hamara Foundation initially started as “Hamara Club” in July 1989 as a field action project of Tata Institute of Social Science (Tiss) by Prof. Asha Rane, in response to the emerging problem of street children, in the city of Mumbai. Now it is an independent project.

Our **Mission** is towards facilitating all round growth, development and empowerment of street children to bring about an overall improvement in their lives. Our **vision** is to ensure that no child should live on the street and that every child has an inherent right to dignity and respect, which aims at working towards creating an environment in which every child enjoys right to survival, development, protection, and participation.

Children in street situation with or without families are a common sight in urban India and among the most vulnerable groups, with limited access to protection, education, health care services and adult supervision. They are mostly found in cities near traffic signals, railway platforms, religious places, shopping areas, stay under flyover, bridges. Every day is a struggle for survival for them. You will bear witness with us that in today’s society many children and their families that reside on pavements, experience a threat to survival, lack of financial independence, health issues and a need to sustain livelihood.

Hamara Foundation runs several projects such as Project for Street Connected Children, City and Railway CHILDLINE, Sponsorship for Education of children, Children’s Cooperatives (CDK & CHSC) for Development and Empowerment of children. In this note Hamara Foundation would like to give emphasize on following projects of Children’s Cooperatives as program is very much beneficial for deprived children for their personality development and empowerment.

**Glimpses of Annual Activities:**

**Session on Child Rights:**

A session on Child Rights was conducted at the K.K. Marg Centre. The session was attended by 80 children where the children were engaged in various interactive activities like- Group discussions, Question & Answers, etc. It helped the children to absorb the information being presented to them, as they were being involved themselves on a first hand basis in the simulated discussions and activities. The children after the sessions were more aware of their rights which were reflected in their demeanor after the session. Many new children were not aware that they had rights as a child, and others were not aware of the rights they were entitled to. This session gave a brief overview on the four major rights the children had along with many other rights that they had. They were made aware of their rights, and taught to exercise them. A question answer session that occurred post the briefing helped clear any doubt the children had with regard to the same.

**Education and Life Skills:**

* Regular coaching was continued for children by teachers at the K.K. Marg branch.
* Extra teaching class for CDK children for 4 hours at a weekly basis was introduced.
* CDK financially helped three of its members, Aditi Pardeshi, Ramratan Sharma and Nafis Shaikh for education purposes.

**Career Guidance:**

Career guidance – cum - counseling session was conducted for the 10th standard children of the Tardeo branch. The children were exposed to the importance of a good solid career plan for their future. Key issues (related) to the concentration of the students were addressed and they were given hints and ways on how to work around them. They were taught the importance of prioritizing their education over social media and other such distractions. At the end of the session, the children agreed to follow the advice given by the counselor, and focus on their education as their first priority.

**Session on Indian Constitution:**

On the occasion of Republic Day, a session on the Indian Constitution for the children of CDK was held. The children were taught what it was, why it was drafted, who drafted it and its importance.

**Right to identity:**

A Life Skill Training Session was organized for 40 CDK children and was conducted by the CVM of Mumbai Central and ACVM of Dadar. The theme of the session was ‘Group Bonding’, with more light thrown on ‘Good Friends’. The children learnt how to make friends and also about real and toxic friendships.

**Coping with Emotions:**

A total of 35 students participated in the life skill session through which they learnt about their inner development as a whole. They were made aware of the different types of intelligence – mainly mental and emotional and taught how to control them. Living on the streets, the children often conform to wrong groups due to peer pressure. In the session they were also taught how to resist the wrong kind of peer pressure and were taught the different kinds of peer pressures.

**The Children learnt a lot through these sessions, the main highlights are:**

**WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS CONDUCTED**

**Self –Defense Workshop:**

Keeping in mind the importance of safety, especially for women, a two-day self-defense workshop was conducted and was attended by 20 girls.

During the course of the workshop, these girls were given basic training on self-defense, the need of self-defense and protection and also were briefed on the need to spread awareness about the importance of self-defense. This workshop proved to be extremely fruitful as the girls shared their experience with their friends and family and also spread awareness about the importance of self-defense in one’s life.

**Gender Sensitivity Workshop:**

As part of enriching and bringing up children with strong moral values, Nine children attended a Gender Sensitivity Workshop at IndiaBulls Center, Lower Parel. Gender biases, stereotypes and prejudices that existed in the minds of these children were cleared and their mindset towards gender equality changed.

The theme of the workshop was, “Gender Sensitivity and Safe City”. This workshop helped the children view the norms of gender roles in a new light, and an inquisitive mindset to challenge the norms. After the workshop, the children made a tremendous effort to spread awareness among their known ones about this issue.

**AADHAR CARD CAMPAIGN AND FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATION:**

Foundation Day of Hamara Foundation was celebrated with great pomp and the initiative of issuing Aadhar Cards (Identity of each citizen of India) by organizing mass camp for all Children was initiated. Actress and social activist, Dia Mirza was the chief guest for the event. Prof. Asha Rane, Founder, Hamara Foundation hosted the event and spoke about the importance of identity. The Right to Identity was discussed with the children and the day ended with some of the children speaking about the importance of identity.

**Skill Training:**

A Skills Training and enhancement workshop was conducted for two children. One of them was Aditi Pardeshi, who is a Child Volunteer Manager for CDK, enrolled in a MSCIT Computer course. The other, a Child Health Educator name PrathamPardeshi, was enrolled in a MSCIT course too. Without any prior training or experience Rohit Pardeshi had a natural knack for repairing the spoilt mobile phones of his peers. We noticed this underlying talent of his and immediately enrolled him in a course of three months, which would help build and refine this skill of his, proving to be beneficial in the long run for him.

**Development of English Skills:**

10 children were given the opportunity to learn Basic English from a student of Hill Spring International School. It was a weekly class and by the end of it, they could construct sentences of their own. This class was a tremendous benefit for the children.

**Computer Coding Class:**

A total of 15 students attended this program. They learnt all about the operating system of a computer, and the different programs you can run on it. They were also taught the basics to design an app and make layouts.

**Financial Literacy:**

* A number of programs were conducted by CDK under this topic in **association with banks**.
* Another workshop focused on teaching the children the **structre** and **hierachy** of a bank.
* Many Financial sessions taken by CDK like ***term of Banks, types of deposits, money transfer, how to manage expenses, budgeting*** etc.

**DBS Bank:**

Another activity undertaken for the children was the workshop on financial literacy organized by DBS bank at Churchgate. 40 children attended this workshop and were divided into groups. Each group was given a budget and a project or a task that had to be done within the budget. The main aim of this workshop was to teach them the skill of cost management and working within a budget. This workshop helped the children learn the different skills of working with limited means.

**Saving and Current Account:**

A session on the difference between Savings Account and Current Account was held by the staff members of the Hamara Foundation, in which 20 children participated. The children got aware of the difference between the two types of accounts and their differences like interest rates etc. and were also familiarized with banking ethics.

**Types of Banks:**

A banking practice session attended by 10 CDK Members was aimed at educating the children about the processes employed by nationalized banks as well as CDK. They were taught about the various types of banks and banking practices, and explained the hierarchy in banks, among others. They could easily relate the discussion their very own bank, CDK.

**Exposure Visit:**

A total of 25 children and a few staff members were taken for a program to Nehru Science Center where they were shown an actual human brain, and explained about how it works, and given the basic biology about the human brain.

**Child Health Cooperatives (CHC), Meetings and Health Sessions**

Child Health educator conducted CHC meeting every month with all CHC members at the Maratha Mandir, KK Marg, Dadar, Tardeo, Mumbai Central and Haji Ali branch. The meetings included discussions on sports and the introduction of a sports competition for boys and girls, cleanliness, personal hygiene, seasonal diseases and Collective action etc.

**Menstrual and Personal Hygiene Camp:**

Hamara Foundation helped empower 60 women and young girls through good menstrual hygiene camps. The children were made aware on the topic of menstrual hygiene and were also educated on topics like proper and clean sanitation the camp and research was conducted by a M.Sc. student of SNDT College.

**First Aid Training:**

While playing, the children tend to injure themselves and hence, to prevent injuries we organized a First Aid Training. The First Aid Trainig included the following :

**Six sessions on health and hygiene for girls:**

The trustee of Hamara Foundation, Anjali Ma’am held six sessions for a group of 12 girls, educating them about the various physical changes that they were undergoing in their body. The impact of these physical changes on their personal hygiene as well as their behavior was also discussed by her. She happily answered any questions the girls had and also counseled them in these matters.

**Collective Action by Child Health Cooperative**

***SAFE AND HEALTHY HOLI:***

Holi is a very celebrated and popular festival in India and every child loves playing it. Keeping in mind the popularity of this festival, the foundation conducted a talk to educate the children on what celebrating the festival safely was, and how to have a safe Holi, by limiting themselves to natural colors. The talk included a complete breakdown of what natural colors were, how they were made, and why they should be used. At its conclusion all the children agreed to have a safe Holi, and use natural colors.

**Medical Cases:**

Total 24 medical cases dealt by staff and 55 cases dealt by CHE (Child health educator).

**Medical Camps and Awareness sessions:**

* Dental Camp for 80 children benefited
* Eye Check-up Camp for 100 Children benefited

**Total 12 GBMs (General Body Meetings) were conducted in this reporting period at different branches of CDK.**

Key Agenda was discussed in the GBMs;

* + 1. **Flexible** and **children friendly timings** for CDK.
    2. Inactiveness of children,Picnics
    3. Change of CVM & ACVM
    4. Stop the frequent withdrawals
    5. Introduction of the **concept of savings** to the children.
    6. Incentive and advances topics
    7. A brief discussion of the various **financial issues** faced by the children, and possible **solutions** to those issues.
    8. Many **computer training** sessions were organized by CDK for the children.
* **other topics** included:

1. **Repairs** for the CDK room.
2. The 5 children who were consistent with the highest savings were **commended** on a job well done.

**Conclusion:**

The result of these meetings was very positive. It led the children to constantly grow and learn in matters of financial concern. This was evident by the rise in the savings of the children.

**Staff Meeting:**

Meeting with staff was held once in a month to discuss the programmes and activities to be held during the month. Several issues were discussed like; reporting, case studies, analysis of case, educational status, need-base activities & sessions and Health care. Considering suggestions of the workers at each branch the monthly activity was planned. Staffs were motivated for their involvement in this activity. Meeting with the Managing Trustee and the Project Manager were fruitful for improving the functioning of programs.

**Parent Meetings:**

Parents meetings were conducted at every center to ensure parents involvement. This meeting was followed by representatives from the Family Planning Association of India, who tried to make the parents aware on topics such as Gender Sensitization and Family Planning.

**RESIDENTIAL CAMP (17TH-19TH FEB 2019):**

A 3-day residential camp at the Sane Guruji Memorial in Raigad was organized for the children of the CDK by Hamara Foundation in February. The main agenda of the camp was to help the children bond among themselves, develop their leadership skills and discipline etc. Hence no mobile phones were allowed on the camp.

On arrival the children received a small orientation on the Memorial, and its structure. The main attraction for the children though, was the camp spot, which was very beautiful, and attracted everyone to it almost right away. The camp was an enriching one and the division of the students into two groups, helped them bond even more.

All the activities like a lemon and spoon race that followed were based on these groups. While on camp, the children trekked on a small hill, learnt about financial literacy and child rights. They also visited tribal settlements and learnt to importance of cleanliness and cleaned their rooms. They also attended a session by an air force officer, Mr. Piyush Bharadwaj. The session was very interesting for the students, as they got a wider perspective on the working and functioning of the Indian defense system. The children got their doubts about the selection criteria, and necessary qualifications for joining the Indian Defense, and serving their country. The best campers were felicitated and all the students received certificates of participation.

**Children’s Meet:**

Our four CDK members participated in National Children’s meet on program of Child Health and Sports Cooperative at Delhi organized by Butterflies.

**Poster Exhibition:**

During the Ganpati Festival, to motivate children and appreciate their skills and talent we organized a Poster Exhibition which included topics of Money saving, saving the girl child, saving the environment etc. The posters were then presented to various Ganpati Mandals.

**Annual Felicitation of children:**

A felicitation ceremony was organized to congratulate the standard 10 and 12 students who passed their final board examination this year with flying colors. These students also gave a speech addressing the other students of the school who would be appearing for these exams in the future. They motivated and encouraged the other students to study well and work hard. They emphasized on the importance of education and how far education can take an individual.

**Children’s Day Celebration:**

The children’s day celebration took place on the 14th of November. The show was anchored by CVM Ibrahim Ansari, who proved to be an exceptional host. There were many performances by the children. And towards the end of the event the children were given food, and a DJ was organized for them.

**Celebration of Women’s Day:**

Women’s Day at the foundation was celebrated on the 8th of March 2019. All the female staff, faculty, and children of CDK were honored and given a rose each. A talk was given about spreading the ideals of gender equality, discouraging crime or any sort of discrimination against women, and furthermore the importance of women was talked up on. The celebration ended with an entertaining game of Antakshri between the men and women, keeping the healthy competitive spirit going.

**Annual Day at Mumbai Central:**

An Annual Day Celebration, consisting of 100 CDK children was held in the Mumbai Central Branch to mark the day of its inception. It consisted of many performances by the children like dancing and singing. The children thoroughly enjoyed this fun filled day, and to show their gratitude a few of them gave speeches thanking the staff and CDK at the end of the celebration.

**New Year’s Celebration:**

The New Year celebration was organized by a foundation called ‘Inspiration we the future’. The head of the organization Mrs. Medha and her entire team from Nair Hospital organized the celebration, which was for 50 children. To add to the excitement of the children, Marathi film industry actors like Anil Gavas, Vikas Mahajan and Rahul Patil were called to give a talk to the children. The topics they covered included career guidance for the children. A great year was brought to an amazing end with this New Year celebration.

**Membership Drives:**

The children of CDK were taken for a picnic to the Taraporevala fish aquarium and Girgum Chowpatty for them to experience more. It helped them step out of their small inclusive homes to the world outside and encouraged more children to join and be a part of CDK.

**SPORTS AND RECREATION:**

**Cricket Matches:**

The Cricket matches were one of the main events that helped build team work and helped the children in physical activity. It was conducted in all 6 centers. Each team had to play three matches each to reach the semifinals. The finals left the kids at the edge of their seats, filled with excitement. The Maratha Mandir team successfully entered the semifinals and will be playing the finals, if they go through the semifinals in January 2019.

**Sport event:**

There was a sports event conducted at Juhu, for 20 children of 9 to 14 years of age. They were made to participate in simple games, like spoon and lemon, dog and the bone, a few relay races. The children thoroughly enjoyed these games, and were taught the importance of being physically active, instead of being addicted plainly to their mobile phones, and various social media sites. Cricket matches were also held right before the exams of the students and it proved to be an excellent stress buster for them.

**Achievements:**

1. Enrolment of children in different courses**:**

* Children were enrolled in different courses, of their preference. Two girls were admitted to a tailoring course. One girl was admitted to an MS CIT Course, a certified computer training course.
* 13 of our children were admitted to a crash course in computer coding. They were taught topics like the language of computer, knowledge of new applications, new technology, animation etc.

1. Wings 2018

Manisha Kamble was invited as a panel member by Save the Children Organization to the event ‘Wings 2018’ conducted in May, where she released a study on the perception of girl’s safety in public places. The event was graced by the Minister of Women and Child Welfare, Govt. of Maharashtra, Smt. Pankaja Munde who addressed multiple issues that the children at the event rose.

The study captured perceptions of girl’s safety in public spaces, the protection and care of children and increasing their vulnerability.

Save the Children has shared and consulted the findings of the study with a wide range of stakeholders through regional consultations, along with voices of children. Two child champions, Saleha and Manisha shared their real life experiences in front of the huge crowd and media.

1. 11 of our children were also admitted in schools, to receive quality education.
2. Two children falling behind in schools were counseled and encouraged to continue pursuing education after consulting them for the main reason behind their problems.
3. UDAAN FESTIVAL :

The Udaan Festival, held at the Government Law College was a competition among many organizations, in which the group dance team of Hamara Foundation bagged the second position. Despite the daily suffering the children have to go through, they have a great amount of passion and dedication in whatever task they take up.

**CHILD HEALTH AND SPORTS COOPERATIVE (CHSC)*:***

A new project by the name of Child Health Sports Corporative was started on the 1st of April, 2019. The children under this project are all the CDK members, and all of them were briefed about the project, its perks and main agenda. Elections for the Child Sport Educator (CSE) were also conducted in the four branches of Dadar, Tardeo, K.K Marg, and Maratha Mandir.

**Mumbai Central Railway CHILDLINE**

This project was initiated with a PIL filed by Ms. Khushboo Jain stating that many children from rural areas ran away to the cities for survival. **The Ministry of Women and Child Development** and **Ministry of Railways** came together by court order to ensure following agenda:

1. Child care
2. Protection
3. Security and well-being of runaway children
4. Unaccompanied by adults and trafficked children who come in contact with the railways.

Hamara Foundation was invited to run this project which was started in Mumbai in 2015. Some of the important activities are as follows:

* During this period we found total 334 children who were need in protection and timely help provided to each and every child along with legal service.
* Sensitization/Awareness Workshops organized for Railway Officials as per SOP
* Awareness with poster holding, pamphlet distribution with Porters.
* Anti-Child Labour Day organised at Mumbai Central Railway premises.
* Attended training of The Programme for Children in Contact with Railway Stations (PCCRS) funded by *Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiative* is organized four day Staff Induction training.
* Rally on Mumbai Central Railway Premises with the Railway officials to spread awareness about cleanliness and promoting Swachh Bharat Abhiyan with posters and banners of Childline and Cleanliness.
* Childline se Dosti week event is in between 14th of November, 2018 to 20th of November 2018 with the Stakeholders like passengers, cleaners, RPF, GRP, Taxi Drivers, Coolies, MSF staff and Railway Officials, Shopkeepers
* CWC Mumbai Suburbs organized a meeting with PO/ superintendent of children's home with collaboration with DWCD to discuss Role of PO’s, Superintendent and NGO’s.
* Convergence meeting with CWC Members, NGO and other service providers and to understand the roles, responsibilities and expectations from to create a healthy collaborative working environment.
* “Jagrut Mumbaikar” program organized for stakeholders.

**CHILDLINE COLLABORATIVE ORGANIZATION**

The CHILDLINE Collaborative organization of Hamara Foundation has been functioning in Nair hospital since 2006 to provide (1098 toll free) 24 hours emergency services for children in need of care & protection. Hamara foundation along with collaboration with Childline has been handling various cases of missing child, medical, shelter, missing, restoration, Emotional support & guidance.

**Hamara Foundation** and **City Childline** have been actively involved in various activities protecting the child from various dangerous situations.

* The total numbers of cases that have been encountered are 533.
* Mass Outreach, Night Outreach conducted during Mumbai Marathon, Ganpati festival, Navaratri by distributing pamphlets and one to one interaction.
* Awareness program organized by using various methods like poster presentation, pamphlet distribution, drawing competition.
* World Anti Child Labour day organized with SM,GRP, RPF and Passengers.
* Police Amche Dost event organized by Agripada Police Station and CHILDLINE team for Agripada Citizen Forum.
* Awareness Activity of 182 RPF Helpline and 1098 helpline conducted at Churchgate station for passengers and citizens.
* Independence Day Celebrated at Rey road and drawing competition conducted with children.
* Open Houses with children, parents, teachers and other stakeholders conducted at every place which comes under jurisdiction.
* Meetings with DCPU, Head of the Departments, local authorities, local NGOs on spreading awareness about CHILDLINE way of functioning.

**CONCLUDING**

The educational, health and other activities conducted by Hamara Foundation ensure that step by step, these children move towards enjoying all the rights like right to education, right to develop, right to participate, right to play etc; that they are inherently bestowed upon by the state.

THANK YOU