

# Impact Assessment of the Children of Vulnerable Families (CVF) program





# Acknowledgement

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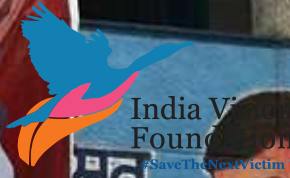
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# Abbreviations

<b>ACE</b>	Adverse Childhood Experience
<b>COPE</b>	Children of Prisoners Europe
<b>CRC</b>	Child Rights Connect
<b>CT</b>	Census Town
<b>CVF</b>	Children of Vulnerable Families
<b>CWC</b>	Child Welfare Committee
<b>Delhi NCR</b>	Delhi National Capital Region
<b>ECCD</b>	Early Childhood Care and Development Program
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>GMR</b>	Grandhi Mallikarjuna Rao
<b>GTBL</b>	Grant Thornton Bharat LLP
<b>ICDS</b>	Integrated Child Development Scheme
<b>INR</b>	Indian National Rupee
<b>IPS</b>	Indian Police Service
<b>JJ</b>	Juvenile Justice
<b>MN</b>	Minnesota
<b>MSS</b>	Minnesota Student Survey
<b>NCRB</b>	National Crime Records Bureau
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>NPP</b>	Nagar Palika Parishad
<b>OECD DAC</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee
<b>OJP</b>	Office of Justice Program
<b>PA</b>	Prisoners Assistance
<b>PICS</b>	Prison Inmate Calling System
<b>SCA</b>	Second Chance Act
<b>UN</b>	United Nation
<b>UP</b>	Uttar Pradesh
<b>US</b>	United States

# About Us



**India Vision Foundation** is a 30-year-old, non-profit, non-government organization registered as a Trust in India vide No. 4595 dated August 1, 1994. The foundation was born out of the Ramon Magsaysay Award (Equivalent to Asia's Nobel Peace Prize) conferred to Dr Kiran Bedi, the first lady IPS (Indian Police Services) of India, for forging 'positive relationships between people and police through creative leadership during her tenure as Inspector General of Tihar Prison, Asia's largest prison. The Foundation seeks to carry forward its service in all those areas which were the basis of the award; namely Police and Prison Reforms; and Women Empowerment.





## Mission

#SaveTheNextVictim

### Vision:

The foundation aspires to contribute toward a crime-free society by initiating reformation programs for prison inmates and reintegration opportunities for released inmates to reduce recidivism. It also facilitates welfare programs for their children to save them from becoming victims of parental incarceration.

### The five main Programs of the Foundation are:

1

**Inside Prison Program**

2

**Early Childhood Care & Development (ECCD) Program**  
- "The Creche inside Prison"

3

**Children of Vulnerable Families (CVF) Program**

4

**Training for Prison Officials Program**

5

**Reintegration & Rehabilitation Program**



Today, the India Vision Foundation is empowering prison inmates and their children towards becoming responsible and conscientious citizens of society. Having reached **13,06,274 beneficiaries** as of Dec. 2024, the Foundation has footprints across **172 prisons across 14 States & 2 UTs** of the country.

# Executive Summary

**In India, the prison population has been steadily rising, posing significant challenges for those left behind, particularly children. Children of incarcerated parents are often regarded as the forgotten victims of the justice system<sup>1</sup>. In India, children younger than 6 years are often brought to remain with mothers inside the prison custody<sup>2</sup>. According to Greenfield and Snell, approximately 7 in 10 women under correctional sanction in India have a child who is under the age of 18<sup>3</sup>. When a woman is imprisoned, in the absence of better solutions for the care of their children, women also prefer that their children remain with them in custody<sup>4</sup>.**

A prison environment cannot substitute the nurturing family atmosphere that every child deserves. Consequently, children with imprisoned parents encounter unique challenges concerning their education, health, and psychosocial well-being.

## **Mitigation by India Vision Foundation**

Keeping these issues in mind, **India Vision Foundation** initiated the **Children of Vulnerable Family (CVF) program** in 1996. This program recognizes the unique challenges these children face, especially after turning 6 years old. CVF focuses on **continuous education** and **comprehensive psychosocial support** and aims to reduce the negative impact of parental incarceration. It empowers these children to achieve their academic, social, and emotional goals, helping break the cycle of generational incarceration.

India Vision Foundation engaged **Grant Thornton Bharat LLP** to conduct an impact assessment (last two Financial Years 2022 – 2023 and 2023 - 2024) of its CVF program, based out in Delhi NCR.





## Purpose of the Study:

This involved the following:



To assess the outreach and impact of the program.



To identify enablers and challenges of the program.



Map the progress of the program since its inception.



To document relevant case studies/impact stories.



Conduct a literature review on similar programs/studies.



To suggest areas of improvement, if any.



To gauge the perception of the stakeholders towards the program.

## Study Design and Approach:

The study utilized the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) principles, which enabled a comprehensive understanding of the program and effectively captured the outcomes of the initiative. It was conducted using a pre-defined approach to understand the program and its stakeholders. It relied on an impact assessment framework that focused on the conceptualization, design, data collection, analysis, and reporting of key findings.

The study followed a qualitative approach with interactions with stakeholders across all three (03) **program locations (Bawana, Loni and Khora)**.

The CVF program adopts a multifaceted approach to provide holistic development, support, and care to children of incarcerated parents. To summarize the program's efforts in creating a better future for these children, a comparison between supported and non-supported students was used to highlight the key interventions between the two groups: the supported students under the CVF Program and the non-supported students

The selected **primary stakeholders** are:

- twenty (20) supported students and
- fifteen (15) non – supported students

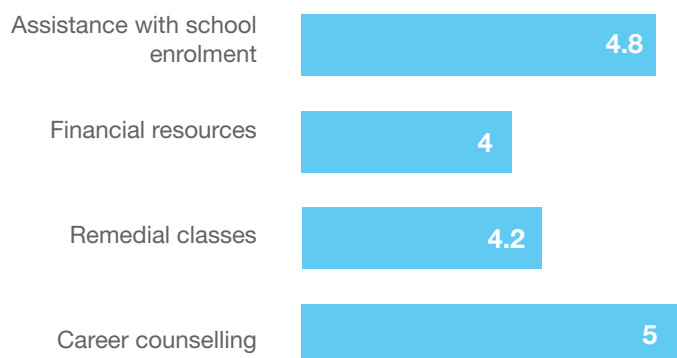
The **secondary stakeholders** are:

- five (05) parents /caregivers,
- three (03) prison officials, and the
- CVF program team members.

## Key Findings of the Study:

As part of the study, stakeholders rated (average) various aspects of the program on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest. The illustration below highlights the same.

### 1) Education



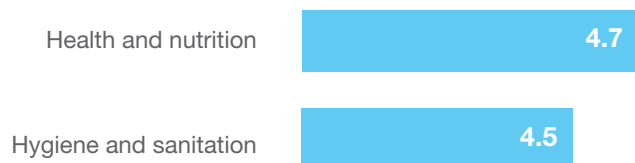
An average rating of 4 and above across various activities highlights the following significant impact of the program on the lives of the stakeholders:

➔ The CVF program has **effectively addressed challenges to accessing education**, including financial constraints and lack of parental support, through remedial classes and career counselling initiatives. This has improved school attendance and enabled a successful education-to-employment pipeline.

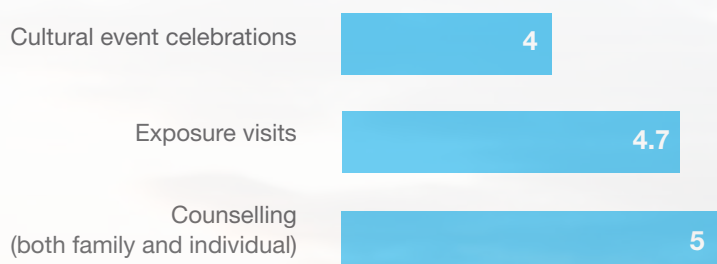
➔ The program has **positively focused on the health and hygiene challenges** that children can face in the absence of their parents. Initiatives under health have positively impacted the children's lifestyle and have made them responsible. They understand the need to maintain a healthy life.

➔ The program has **comprehensively managed psychosocial well-being** with mental health education. The CVF program has made a profound impact on children's lives, nurturing growth, and development. This holistic approach empowers children to overcome adversity, nurturing hope and promise for a thriving tomorrow.

### 2) Health



### 3) Psychosocial well being



# Recommendations

Post an assessment of the CVF program through available literature and stakeholder discussions, India Vision Foundation may consider the below points for planning or execution of its CVF program.

- ➔ **Education: Scholarship and Mentorship Program:** To bolster educational support, scholarship program along with financial support to children excelling in academics or extracurricular activities can be introduced
- ➔ **Health: Generic medical evaluation:** To enhance the health support provided by the foundation, the program may include monthly or quarterly medical evaluations for the supported students to understand their specific health needs.
- ➔ **Psychosocial: Peer group gathering at Loni and Khora:** Planning monthly and quarterly peer group gatherings for supported students in Loni and Khora will foster a sense of togetherness and belonging.
- ➔ **Others:**
  - **Monitoring and evaluation:** the Foundation may focus on enhancing its monitoring and evaluation mechanism to track and measure the program's effectiveness and efficiency.
  - **Reports or documentation about the support:** The foundation should consider preparing quarterly or yearly program reports to document their impact and highlight program outcomes.



## Alumni case study

Name: Kajal

Age: 24 years old

Location: Meerut



Kajal, a 24-year-old student from Meerut, lives with her mother, two sisters, and brother. She is currently pursuing her bachelor's degree at IMT University.



### Before intervention

An alumna of the Foundation, Kajal and her siblings have been supported since 2015, when they were enrolled in the CVF program after their mother was incarcerated.

In 9th grade, Kajal was enrolled in a hostel by the Foundation team and attended Saint James Convent School in Ghaziabad. Reflecting on her time in the hostel, Kajal recalls it helped build discipline. Hostel life required her to wake up on time, attend school, maintain hygiene, and diligently complete her homework.

### After intervention

Through the program's involvement, Kajal was able to identify her interests and career path. Career development workshops and guidance from the program team sparked helped her prepare for UPSC examinations with the goal of securing a government job. Currently, she is interning as an office administrator at the Meerut District Court.

As the eldest daughter, Kajal not only supports her mother by contributing to the family's income but also guides her younger siblings in their academic journey. The hardships she faced have driven her to excel in her studies, which she believes will help her and her family achieve a better standard of living. Kajal considers her mother to be her primary source of motivation, especially during difficult times.

**In conclusion, the Foundation continues to support its alumni, maintaining regular contact to offer guidance when needed. Kajal remains in touch with the Foundation's SPOC through tele-calls, seeking advice and support as required. The Foundation's ongoing support has been instrumental in helping Kajal pursue her dreams.**

# Background

## Status of prison statistics in India

The escalating prison population in India presents considerable challenges for the families of inmates, with children being particularly susceptible to adverse impacts. As of recent reports published in 2022 by the Government of India - National Crime Records Bureau<sup>5</sup> (NCRB), total number of inmates in India exceeds 5,73,220. Out of this, 4,34,302 are undertrials. Uttar Pradesh (UP) has reported the highest number of prisoners (1,21,609) contributing 21.2% of the total. This is followed by Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, and West Bengal as on 31st December 2022. These states together contribute approximately 58.6% of total prisoners in the country.

In terms of gender distribution, the female and male prison population stands at 23,772 and 5,49,351 respectively. Further, female inmates also include pregnant women or mothers with children. There are 1,537 women prisoners with 1,764 children as of 31st December 2022.

These alarming statistics underscore the critical need for robust, comprehensive support systems tailored to the distinct challenges faced by families, especially children, of incarcerated individuals.

India Vision Foundation's pioneering CVF program stands out as a singular beacon of hope, specifically designed to tackle these complex issues. Leveraging an expansive network of trained professionals and strategic collaborations, CVF delivers impactful solutions to mitigate the adverse effects of incarceration on families.



## Challenges faced by the families and children.

Family members of incarcerated individuals are often referred to as “hidden victims” — victims of the criminal justice system who are neither acknowledged nor given a platform to be heard. These hidden victims receive little personal support and do not benefit from the systemic societal mechanisms available to direct crime victims.<sup>6</sup>

Parental incarceration has a significant impact on the lives of children. From arrest and pre-trial detention to conviction, jail, probation, imprisonment, and parole, each stage of the criminal justice process can disrupt a child's life<sup>7</sup>.



## Education

The incarceration of a parent has profound repercussions on the educational journey of a child. The sudden disruption in day-to-day life often necessitates a change in caregivers, which, coupled with the added burden of household responsibilities, effects their academic routine<sup>8</sup>. This instability undermines their performance in school and reduces their prospects for higher education. As they struggle with the absence of a parent, their focus wavers, making the path to educational attainment fraught with obstacles. This often forces children to abandon their studies at an early stage to contribute to the family's income.



## Health

Limited involvement of parents in their children's life, also impacts their overall access to healthcare and nutrition<sup>9</sup>. Children often face challenges with nutrition and absence of consistent care. The lack of sufficient meals not only stunts their physical growth but also leaves them vulnerable to a host of diseases. Parental incarceration leads to the absence of a nurturing environment that ensures regular and wholesome meals. This affects the child's health and well-being.



## Psychosocial health

Parental incarceration also impacts emotional and psychological health of children. The sudden separation can trigger anxiety and loneliness, while the societal stigma attached to their parent's imprisonment often leads to discrimination and social exclusion<sup>10</sup>. These experiences foster feelings of alienation and impacts their self-esteem leading to behavioural and emotional challenges that hinder their social development<sup>11</sup>.



## Financial and economic welfare

Imprisonment also impacts the financial wellbeing of a family. This is especially challenging if the parent under trial/ imprisoned was the sole earning member of the family<sup>12</sup>. Financial distress within a family often forces children to contribute to household expenses, which disrupts their education and exposes them to child labour. These financial challenges have a significant impact on their health, education, and overall early childhood development<sup>13</sup>.

In addressing these issues, a comprehensive strategy that encompasses supportive services, community involvement, and legal advocacy is essential. Such an approach can mitigate the adverse effects on children and pave the way for a more equitable future.



# Programs for children belonging to incarcerated families – Global and Indian perspective

## Global initiatives

Around the world, countries have recognized the unique challenges that children with incarcerated parents face. They have developed innovative support programs to maintain the parent-child bond and ensures well-being of children.

The following section highlights initiatives from both South Asian and Western perspectives.

## United States of America

As of 2022, United States had a prison population of approximately 12,30,100 individuals, marking a 2% increase from 2021. Notably, the number of females in state or federal prisons grew by almost 5%, from 83,700 in 2021 to 87,800 in 2022. Additionally, the imprisonment rate at the end of 2022 was 355 sentenced prisoners per 100,000 U.S. residents. This data highlights ongoing trends and shifts within the U.S. correctional system<sup>14</sup>. The Federal law that supports the re-entry of formerly incarcerated individuals into society is the **Second Chance Act**, enacted in 2008.

The Second Chance provides funding for state, Tribal, and local agencies, as well as nonprofit organizations, in their effort to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for people returning from state and federal prisons, local jails, and juvenile facilities.

The U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) funds and administers the Second Chance Act grants. Within OJP, the Bureau of Justice Assistance awards SCA grants serving adults, and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention awards grants serving youth<sup>15</sup>.

Second Chance Act Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Parents with Minor Children<sup>16</sup>



This Act provides funding to develop programs within detention or correctional facilities to respond to the needs of incarcerated parents who have children younger than 18 years.



Key activities aim to strengthen family engagement between incarcerated parents and their children inside detention and correctional facilities, including:

- juvenile detention and correctional facilities with young fathers
- implement programs and services that support the children of incarcerated parents to reduce their likelihood of antisocial behaviours and future involvement in the juvenile justice system.



The program also aims to support correctional facilities by providing staffing, tools, and resources to create child-friendly spaces. This focuses on parental engagement, developing safety protocols for children during visits, offering necessary programs and services for incarcerated parents and their children, along with training corrections officers in trauma-informed practices.

These initiatives help mitigate the negative impacts of parental incarceration on children and promote positive youth development.

### **One of the prominent state-run programs that work towards improving parent-child relationships is the Minnesota Model Jail Practices Learning Community<sup>17</sup>**

An estimated 1 in 6 youth in Minnesota has an incarcerated or previously incarcerated parent, making it a common Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) (MN Student Survey, 2022). In Minnesota, 22% of rural, 20% of township, 16% of city, and 14% of suburban youth have experienced parental incarceration (2019 MSS data). Two-thirds of adults in Minnesota jails are parents with minor children.

#### **Minnesota Model Jail Practices Learning Community**

This initiative aims to improve parent-child relationships, reduce recidivism, enhance child well-being, and boost public safety. It promotes and expands services in local jails and communities to support incarcerated individuals and their minor children. Facilitated by the MN Department of Health and the University of Minnesota, this multidisciplinary initiative engages state and local partners to implement beneficial policy, system, and environmental changes for children of incarcerated parents and their families.

There are five pillars of activity that guide the learning community efforts:



Providing evidence-based parenting education classes.



Building community coalitions and partnerships.



Providing staff and partner training.



Leveraging state agency partnerships.



Implementing other model jail practices such as improving visiting environment and intake practices.

## **Europe**

As of 2023, European prisons housed approximately 4,75,000 inmates, equating to 106 prisoners per 100,000 inhabitants. Notably, Hungary and Poland reported the highest incarceration rates, with 191 prisoners per 100,000 people, while Finland and Slovenia had the lowest, at 51 and 54 respectively<sup>18</sup>.

In Europe, support programs for children with incarcerated parents are spearheaded by organizations like Children of Prisoners Europe (COPE). COPE works to ensure that these children receive fair treatment and protection of their rights, as outlined by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child. The organization promotes initiatives such as child-friendly prison visits, increased communication access between children and their parents, and special training for professionals working with these children<sup>19</sup>. Despite these efforts, children with imprisoned parents still face significant challenges, including discrimination, social exclusion, and emotional distress. Enhanced cross-sectoral support is needed to address these issues comprehensively.



#### **Child Rights Connect<sup>20</sup>**

Child Rights Connect is a registered Swiss association based in Geneva, Switzerland. Its organs are the General Assembly, the Executive Committee, the International Secretariat, and the Working Groups. Child Rights Connect was initially set up in 1983 as the Ad Hoc NGO Group for the drafting of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Its initial mandate was to influence the drafting of the CRC, the first and most comprehensive international human rights treaty for children. Since then, they have worked to connect UN human rights systems to the daily realities of children's lives.



## The Working Group on Children of Incarcerated Parents

The Working Group was established to assist the Committee on the Rights of the Child in preparing for the 2011 Day of General Discussion on children of incarcerated parents. Following its initial success, the Working Group has continued its efforts to raise awareness about the inmate's children at the Human Rights Council, as well as among UN treaty bodies, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, and various regional and national bodies.

The primary objectives of the Working Group include:

- **Linking Field Work with UN Mechanisms:** The Working Group aims to connect practitioners working directly with children of incarcerated parents to the United Nations, particularly its human rights mechanisms. This connection ensures that the development of international standards is informed by the realities faced by these children.
- **Supporting Advocacy and Practice:** The Working Group enables those working with and for children of incarcerated parents to utilize international standards to bolster their advocacy efforts and practical applications.
- **Sharing Good Practices:** By providing a platform for the exchange of best practices between countries and regions, the Working Group enhances the recognition of the needs of children of incarcerated parents and promotes the realization of their rights.

## South Asia - Nepal<sup>21</sup>

Prisoners Assistance (PA) Nepal is a non-profit organization founded by Indira Rana Magar, known as Aama, in 2000 AD. The organization focuses on ensuring a better future for prisoners' children. PA Nepal has launched different jail programs for incarcerated families and children to create sense of social norm. PA Nepal conducts several programs to demonstrate alternative methods to support prisoners and their journey.



### Prison program

- ➔ **Nutritional and Hygiene Support:** By providing basic nutrition and hygiene aid, PA Nepal supports pregnant women and mothers with young children in prisons **Day Care and Children Support:** To ensure children stay with their mothers until age of four, PA Nepal advocates for child-friendly prison cells and provides daycare in Chandragadi, Jhapa, and Palpa prisons. Services include Early Childhood Development education, meals, and recreation, with children returning to their mothers in the evening.
- ➔ **Adult Literacy School:** PA Nepal runs an adult literacy school in the Central Women Jail, educating prisoners on basic literacy, human rights, and criminal justice. This initiative aims to empower prisoners and improve knowledge of basic rights.
- ➔ **Day Care School:** PA Nepal's day care centers, equipped with educational materials and toys, provide children with early education, nutritious meals, and basic medical supplies.
- ➔ **Mental Health Program:** PA Nepal offers mental health support through social workers, reflexology, acupuncture, and music therapy to address the trauma experienced by prisoners.
- ➔ **Women's Program:** PA Nepal focuses on empowering female prisoners through, literacy and employment prospects, particularly those with children in PA Nepal's care.





### Junkiri School

Junkiri Public School, also known as the Firefly Public School, has emerged as a highly effective strategy in the process of reintegrating children with incarcerated parents. The school facilitates community connections, easing legal and property challenges and promoting regular communication with family members. Community involvement is crucial, with PA Nepal establishing three sustainable homes in Palpa, Buttabari-Jhapa, and Khudunabari-Jhapa. This program provides a stable environment and emphasizes the community's role in supporting these children's reintegration. Junkiri School comprises of grades 1 to 5 and is open to the community as well.

- ➔ Junkiri is an alternative education system developed by PA Nepal to address the different transitions for rescued children from prison into traditional Nepali schools.
- ➔ Junkiri uses a hands-on learning method where children learn by doing and seeing, rather than memorization.
- ➔ Teaches practical skills, such as handicraft, cooking, and farming in traditional academic subjects.
- ➔ Junkiri School in Sankhu and Jhapa also offer free education for children from local communities.



### Children's homes

These homes provide comprehensive care for children of incarcerated families through emotional, mental, and physical support. Currently, PA Nepal supports 189 children across 10 homes. Despite budget constraints, they adhere to high standards of practice and ethics, fostering a positive family environment free from the stigma of their parents' imprisonment. PA Nepal's philosophy emphasizes experiential learning, family values, and respect.



## India

In India, the plight of children belonging to incarcerated families is gradually gaining attention. Various state governments and non-governmental organizations stepping in to address their unique challenges. Given the rise in India's prison population, with the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reporting a total of 5,73,220 inmates in 2022, it is essential to implement policies and welfare programs to support the families and children of incarcerated individuals.

The Supreme Court has laid down guidelines<sup>22</sup> to ensure the welfare of these children, emphasizing that they should not be treated as convicts and must be provided with basic rights such as food, shelter, and medical facilities. Additionally, the Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act 2000 and other child protection laws aim to safeguard their rights and promote their well-being<sup>23</sup>. Various NGOs and government initiatives also focus on maintaining the connection between incarcerated parents and their children through regular visits and communication. These efforts collectively aim to support the holistic development and wellbeing of children affected by parental incarceration. However, there's a notable gap in addressing the needs of children above 6 years old.

Following are some prominent initiatives taken by the West Bengal and Odisha government for the welfare for children whose parents are incarcerated.



### West Bengal<sup>24</sup>

**West Bengal Correctional Services** has introduced initiatives for the children of mothers residing in correctional homes. In their recent bulletin (July-December 2022) they mentioned the focus on the enrolment of children in regular schools and the celebration cultural events such as Durga Puja to provide a semblance of normalcy. They have exposure visits to the zoo and children's park for rejuvenation.

The **Telegraph Education Foundation**, an NGO partner, provides economic support to these families. This collaboration ensures that children receive educational opportunities and emotional support, mitigating the impact of their parents' incarceration.



### Odisha

Odisha State Government has extended the benefits of the **Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS)** to children aged 0-6 who stay in jail with their parents. This includes supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-ups, and pre-school education. Children reaching the age of six are either placed with guardians or brought before the **Child Welfare Committee (CWC)** for rehabilitation. The jail administration, in coordination with health and child protection authorities, ensures the provision of psychosocial and mental health services. This comprehensive approach aims to address the immediate and long-term needs of children within the correctional system.

These initiatives and approaches across regions highlight the emerging need to address issues faced by children/ families of incarcerated people.







# Introduction

## ABOUT INDIA VISION FOUNDATION



**Founded by Dr. Kiran Bedi, India's first female police officer, following her receipt of the Ramon Magsaysay Award, often considered Asia's Nobel Prize. Dr. Bedi was honoured for her innovative leadership and efforts in building positive relationships between the police and the public during her tenure as Inspector General of Tihar Prison, Asia's largest prison.**

India Vision Foundation (hereafter will be referred to as the Foundation) is a non-profit organisation established in 1994. It has over three decades of experience in transforming the lives of prison inmates and instilling new hope through its initiatives in India. The Foundation focuses on continuing its work in the key areas that underpinned Dr. Bedi's Ramon Magsaysay Award: Police and Prison Reforms and Women Empowerment. Through these efforts, The Foundation aims to support meaningful change within the prison system.





### About Grant Thornton – Assessment partner

Grant Thornton Bharat, as a member of Grant Thornton International Ltd., stands at the forefront of reshaping the values within the professional landscape. With a commitment to driving positive change, the firm is actively shaping various industry ecosystems through its extensive work across Assurance, Tax, Risk, Transactions, Technology, and Consulting services. Going beyond traditional roles, Grant Thornton Bharat is dedicated to shaping a more vibrant Bharat. With a presence spanning 17 offices across 14 locations in India, the firm's reach and impact extend across the nation, contributing to the growth and development of diverse sectors and communities.

GTBL, ESG is a dedicated team focusing on supporting efforts towards sustainable development. The team comprehensively understands the challenges associated with sustainable development and provides tailored solutions by leveraging its knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm. GTBL, ESG's clientele encompasses a diverse range of entities, including corporates, philanthropic organizations, multilateral and international agencies/institutions, iNGOs, and association, among others. Through its commitment to sustainability and expertise in the field, GTBL, ESG plays a vital role in facilitating positive change and driving impactful initiatives across various sectors.

## Some Key Programs by India Vision Foundation

Table 2: Key programs

Key programs	Description
 <b>Inside Prison Program</b>	The Inside Prison Program focuses on reforming inmates (men, women, and youth) using its 4S Model: Education (Shiksha), Values (Sanskar), Skills Development, and Health (Swasth). It includes therapeutic activities like art, music, dance, and gardening, as well as life skills sessions, sports, and celebrations. The goal is to uplift vulnerable and marginalized populations with the motto 'No One Left Behind', aiming for a safe, just, and resilient society.
 <b>Early Childhood Care &amp; Development Program (ECCD)</b>	'The Creche Inside Program' under ECCD works for the children of prison inmates who are less than six years of age. The program works towards the holistic development of these children through facilitating standardised elementary education, provision of nutritious food and healthcare.
 <b>Reintegration and Rehabilitation Program</b>	The Rehabilitation & Reintegration Program aims to help ex-inmates leave their past behind and start a journey that values their talents, skills, and self-esteem. This reduces the likelihood of reoffending and promotes their successful reintegration into society.
 <b>Training of Prison Officials</b>	This program aims to educate and sensitize prison officials on prison reforms and standardize correctional programs, and build their capacity on key issues, ensuring their well-being in the workplace.



# About the Children of Vulnerable Families Program

The Children of Vulnerable Families (CVF) program by the Foundation supports children affected by parental incarceration. This program recognizes the unique challenges these children face, especially after turning 6 years old, and focuses on their overall development and well-being. **This need for support was the key reason to start the CVF program. It helped address the lack of resources and opportunities for children of incarcerated parents.**

CVF focuses on **continuous education** and **comprehensive psychosocial support** and aims to reduce the negative impact of parental incarceration. It empowers these children to achieve their academic, social, and emotional goals, helping break the cycle of generational incarceration.

By integrating and educating children from vulnerable families, the program works towards overcoming the societal barriers and ensure these children have equal opportunities to succeed in life. India Vision Foundation's dedication to the CVF program reflects its commitment to create a supportive environment for vulnerable groups, fostering a brighter future, and advancing a fair and inclusive society. The program is currently implemented across three (03) Indian states: **Delhi, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh.**

Additionally, the model of the program has evolved over the years:

- ➔ Initially it started as a **residential model** in 1996 where the Foundation collaborated with boarding schools.
- ➔ In 2008, it started focussing on the **community model** approach. Under this, community centers were established to provide a platform to youth for development and engagement. Additionally, these centers serve as a learning, reading and recreation space.
- ➔ The year 2013 marked the onset of **home support model** where the children living with their relatives were provided support through home visits, financial aid and ensuring fulfilment of their basic needs.
- ➔ In 2020, the CVF program adopted the **family support model**, emphasizing holistic development to strengthen family bonds, nurture children, and promote welfare. It recognizes the pivotal role of families in ensuring child welfare and fostering overall well-being.

**The Foundation has positively impacted and transformed 1,584 lives through the CVF program till March 2024. Out of the 1,584 lives impacted 301 are children, 1,140 are families and 169 are alumni.**

## Why is the program important?

The incarceration of one or both earning members of a family places significant financial strain on children and caregivers, disrupting their daily lives and educational opportunities. These children often face increased vulnerability to exploitation, including risks of being taken advantage of by neighbours or relatives, running away, or even becoming involved in criminal activities.

Furthermore, their daily routines are interrupted, forcing them to take on adult responsibilities prematurely and miss out on years of formal education. This situation perpetuates a cycle of disadvantage and hardship, highlighting the urgent need for support systems to mitigate its effects and ensure these children can thrive despite their circumstances.

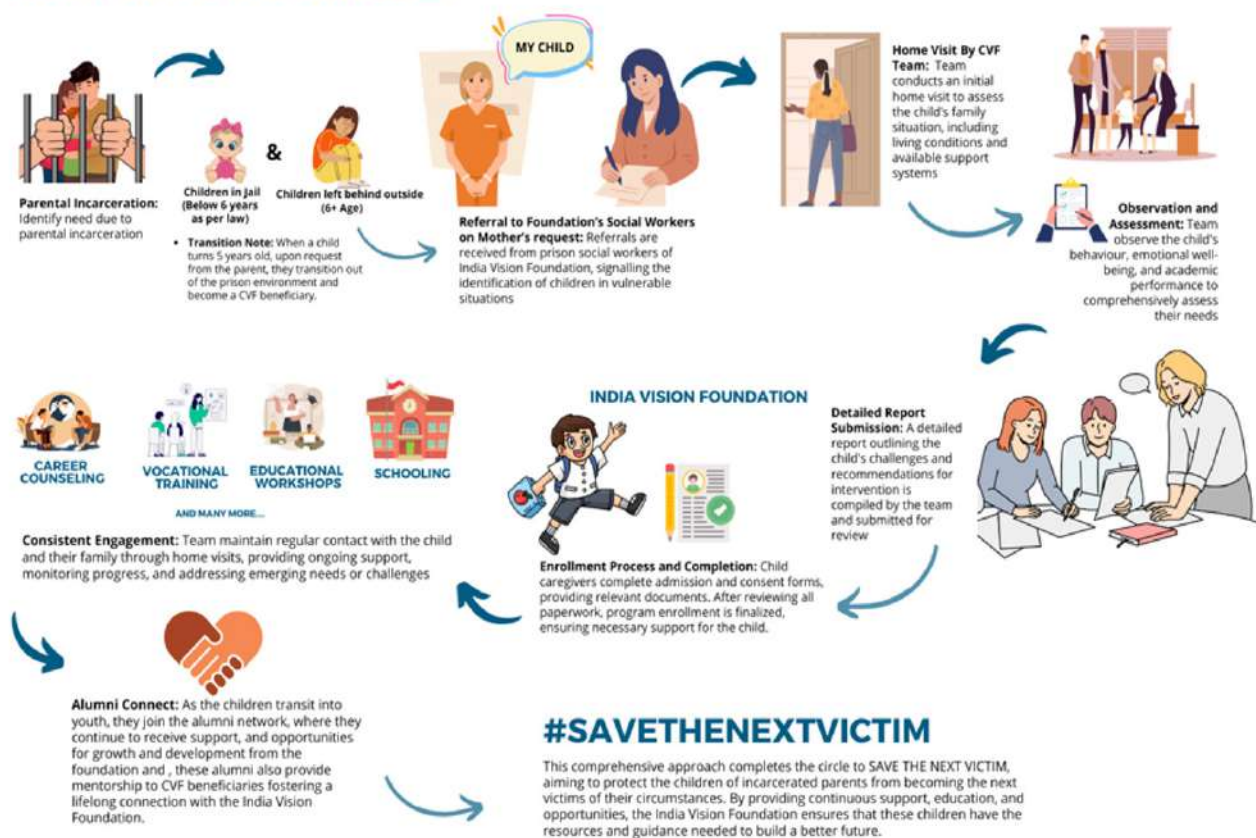


## CVF PROGRAM: THEORY OF CHANGE

The CVF program follows the following process. (Refer to Fig 1)

Figure 1 : CVF program Theory of Change

### THEORY OF CHANGE:



As mentioned previously, the CVF program focuses on **(02) key aspects:**

- ➔ Psychosocial well-being
- ➔ Uninterrupted education

### Psychosocial well-being

- ➔ **Individual and Regular Counselling:** The program's counsellors interact directly with children and families, offering a secure environment for open conversations and emotional guidance.
- ➔ **Home Visits:** Regular visits to homes are conducted to grasp the distinct requirements of each family, customizing our assistance according to their specific situations.
- ➔ **Basic Necessities Support:** Continuous assistance is provided by supplying essential items to fulfil the fundamental requirements of children and their families.

### Uninterrupted education

- ➔ **School Engagement:** Counsellors actively participate in school activities to facilitate the smooth integration of children from vulnerable families and cultivate a supportive atmosphere.
- ➔ **Financial Assistance:** The program includes covering school fees and supplying uniforms, stationary, and other necessary items to support students' educational needs.
- ➔ **Regular School Visits:** Counsellors conduct frequent visits to schools to monitor student progress, address challenges, and collaborate closely with educators to ensure an optimal learning environment.

## Bawana Community Program

Furthermore, India Vision Foundation to broaden its influence actively engages with the Bawana Community Program. The main idea is to cultivate a strong sense of community and promote collective growth among its members. The key components include:

- ➔ **Remedial Classes:** The community center acts as a focal point for educational support, providing remedial classes to improve academic skills and fill learning gaps.
- ➔ **Workshops and Sessions:** A diverse array of workshops and sessions are arranged to empower children and their families with knowledge and skills that foster personal and community development.
- ➔ **Nutrition Programs:** Acknowledging the significance of nutrition, we offer nourishing meals to children, ensuring their physical well-being supports their educational progress.

Additionally, parent-child meetings in the prison, exposure trips, individual support (such as providing groceries and rent assistance), and skill development and internships also take place.

## Delhi NCR – Loni and Khora

India Vision Foundation has expanded its outreach to the Loni and Khora areas in Delhi NCR, providing comprehensive support to beneficiaries in these regions. The foundation's assistance includes:

- ➔ Ration distribution during the COVID-19 pandemic
- ➔ Financial support for education
- ➔ Psychosocial support
- ➔ Home visits
- ➔ Other activities

While the services offered are similar to those at the Bawana, the beneficiaries in Loni and Khora are more geographically dispersed, requiring adapted outreach strategies to ensure effective support.

# ABOUT THE STUDY

India Vision Foundation engaged Grant Thornton Bharat LLP to conduct an impact assessment (last two Financial Years 2022 – 2023 and 2023 - 2024) of its CVF program, based out in Delhi NCR.





India Vision  
Foundation

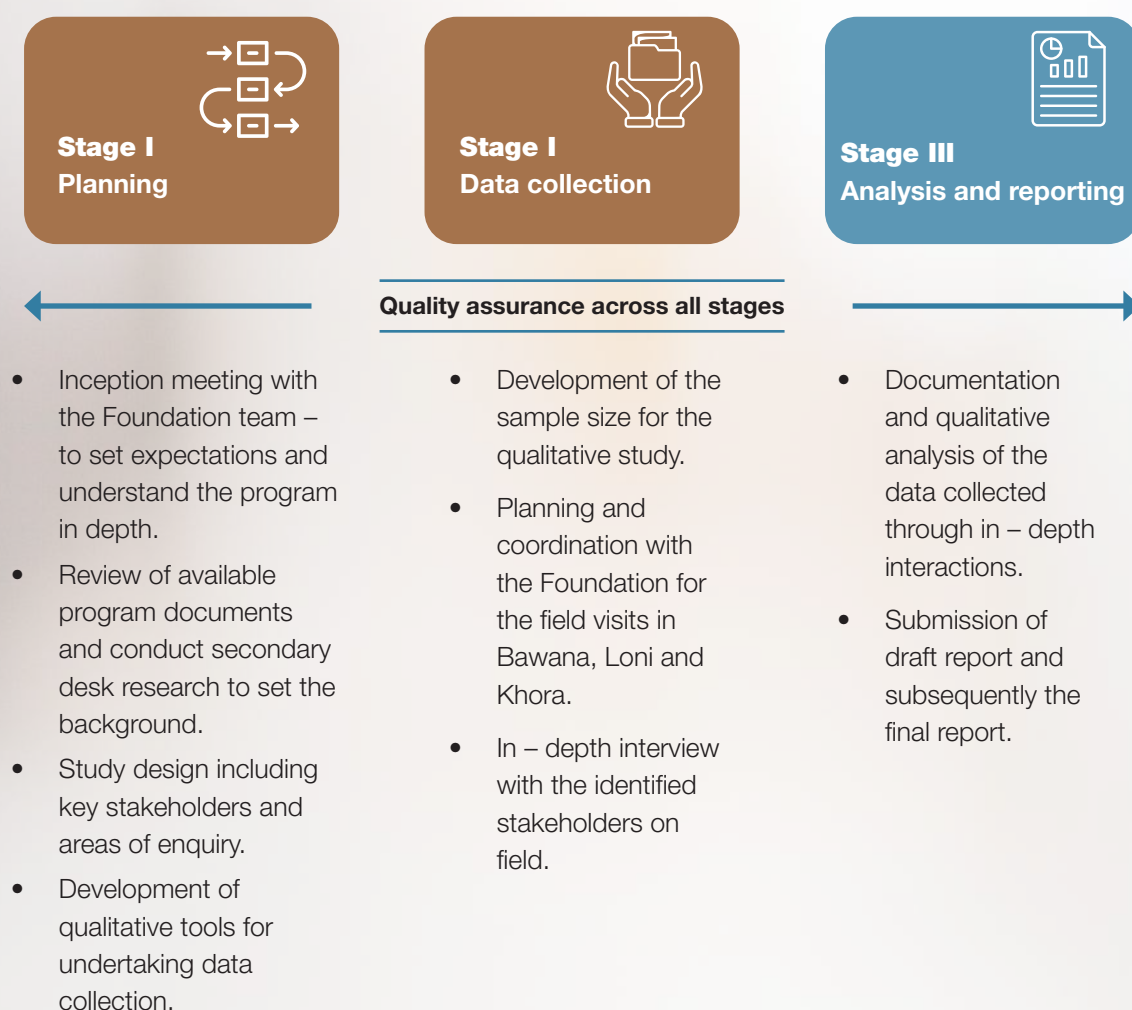
India Vision  
Foundation



# Approach and methodology

The study was conducted using a pre-defined approach to understand the program and its stakeholders. It relied on an impact assessment framework that focused on conceptualization, design, data collection, analysis, and reporting of key findings. The approach was divided into three stages: planning, data collection, and reporting.

**Table 3 : Approach for the study**



# Methodology

This section highlights the methodology for the study.

## Stage 1: Conceptualisation



### Inception meeting

An inception meeting was held with the program team of the Foundation to develop a detailed understanding of the CVF program, and key activities undertaken from FY 2022 to 2024. Following the initial discussion, the required program documents, including a list of current activities, target locations, and stakeholder information, were shared with GTBL.



### Review of documents and secondary research

The program documents were reviewed in detail. This step also included secondary research on prison statistics in India, government laws and policies for child rights and protection, along with ongoing programs by the government / NGOs for children with incarcerated parents or individuals. Research was also conducted on a global perspective to understand initiatives taken for children with incarcerated individuals by various countries in the West and South Asia.



### Study design or approach

The study utilized the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) principles, which enabled a comprehensive understanding of the program and effectively captured the outcomes of the initiative. These principles provide a framework for evaluating development program.



**Table 4 : OECD DAC framework principles**

S/N	Principle	Definition <sup>25</sup>
1	Relevance	The extent to which the intervention objectives and design respond to beneficiaries' needs and continue to do so if circumstances change.
2	Effectiveness	The extent to which the intervention achieved, or is expected to achieve, its objectives, and its results, including any differential results across groups.
3	Efficiency	The extent to which the intervention delivers, or is likely to deliver, results in an economic and timely way.
4	Impact	The extent to which the intervention has generated or is expected to generate significant positive or negative, intended, or unintended, higher-level of effects.
5	Sustainability	The extent to which the net benefits of the intervention continue or are likely to continue.

## Stakeholder mapping and areas of enquiry

Stakeholders for the program were categorized into primary and secondary. To comprehensively grasp the current situation, beneficiary perception and areas for improvement, questions were tailored as per the stakeholder's role in the program. Areas of enquiry were developed to facilitate the development of suitable tools for impact assessment.

**Table 5 : Stakeholder areas of enquiry**

	Stakeholder	Areas of enquiry
Primary stakeholder	 <b>Support children</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding the process of association with the Foundation</li> <li>• Details of the support they are receiving from the program</li> <li>• Details of their present education status</li> <li>• Details of their health status</li> <li>• Details of family background w.r.t. financial and economic status</li> <li>• Understanding their present living standard and challenges</li> </ul>
	 <b>Parent/Caregiver</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding how they were associated with the Foundation.</li> <li>• Details of the support they are receiving from the program</li> <li>• Number of children supported from their family</li> <li>• Trainings and capacity building support provided to the parent/care giver</li> <li>• Additional and need based support received from the program</li> <li>• Understanding their present living standard and challenges</li> </ul>
Secondary stakeholder	 <b>Non-support children</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding their present living standard and challenges</li> <li>• Details of their family background w.r.t. family member composition, and financial and economic status</li> <li>• Details of their educational status</li> <li>• Details of their health status</li> <li>• Understanding their present need and expectations</li> </ul>
	 <b>Alumni</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding their journey since inception</li> <li>• Understanding the support received</li> <li>• Understanding how the program evolved over time</li> <li>• Understanding their present living standard</li> </ul>
	 <b>Prison authorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding of the program</li> <li>• Understanding their role in the program</li> <li>• Details on specific process or protocol involved regarding the association</li> <li>• Understanding their perspective and feedback on the program</li> </ul>
	 <b>Program team (Foundation team)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Details on every resource person involved in the program w.r.t. roles and responsibility involved</li> <li>• Understanding the program since inception and how it has evolved</li> <li>• Details on the program location and beneficiaries</li> <li>• Details on key activities undertaken in the program across all the locations</li> <li>• Understanding how they mobilise beneficiary and how they shortlist beneficiary for their program</li> <li>• Challenges faced by the team</li> </ul>





### Development of data collection tools

To capture information from different stakeholders, qualitative data collection tools were developed based on the nature of the program and areas of enquiry highlighted in the table above.

In-depth interviews were conducted with both types of stakeholders to gather qualitative insights. This approach allowed us to understand the program from each stakeholder's perspective and capture their perceptions. These interactions also helped us assess whether the program objectives were met and if the outcomes aligned with expectations.

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## Stage 2: Collection of data and stakeholder interaction



### Sampling

The study followed a qualitative approach with interactions with stakeholders across all three (03) program locations (Bawana, Loni and Khora). The study selected twenty (20) supported students and fifteen (15) non-supported students across three program locations as per availability. The program also included secondary stakeholders such up to five (05) parents or caregivers in each location, three (03) prison officials, and the CVF program team and other relevant government officials as per availability.



### Data collection process

For qualitative data collection, training was conducted with the field team to ensure clarity. Knowledge of key requirements was also considered as mentioned by the program team to conduct smooth interactions with the supported children. Additionally, GTBLLP team conducted qualitative interviews with the identified stakeholders in select villages.

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## Stage 3: Analysis and reporting



### Data Analysis

The collected data was collated and organised qualitatively, following the OECD DAC principles. This analysis documented all responses, allowing for meaningful inferences to be drawn about the performance and outcome of the program.



### Draft and final report :

A draft report with study findings was prepared and shared with the Foundation for feedback. Thereafter, the final report was issued incorporating feedback and included findings, inferences from stakeholder discussions, and recommendations.

# Location Coverage

## Location profile

According to the NCRB, Uttar Pradesh (UP) reported the highest number of prisoners (1,21,609) in 2022. The sheer number of cases along with the vulnerability of locations, helped the Foundation select the key program locations. The program has been implemented in Bawana, Loni and Khora which are situated in Delhi NCR. Bawana is a vast industrial area on the periphery of Delhi and has recorded high crime and industrial hazard issues. Further, both Loni and Khora colony in Ghaziabad are also crime-prone with cases of theft and mugging. Additional details on the locations are given below:

### Bawana<sup>26</sup>

Bawana is a Census Town (CT) in the Northwest Delhi district. According to the Census India 2011 report, Bawana has a population of 73,680, with 40,258 males and 33,422 females. Children aged 0-6 years make up 14.86% of the total population.

The literacy rate in Bawana is 70.26%, which is lower than the state average of 86.21%. Out of the total population, 22,697 people are engaged in work or business activities. Further, out of the total working population, 91.26% are engaged in main work (business, job, service, and cultivator and labour activity), while 8.74% are involved in marginal work.

### Loni<sup>27</sup>

Loni is a Nagar Palika Parishad (NPP) city in Ghaziabad district of Uttar Pradesh. According to the Census India 2011 report, Loni has a population of 516,082, with 275,025 males and 241,057 females. Children aged 0-6 years make up 15.61% of the total population of Loni (NPP).

The literacy rate in Loni is 72.14%, which is higher than the state average of 67.68%. Out of the total population, 149,339 people are engaged in work or business activities. Of the total working population, 84.03% are engaged in main work (business, job, service, and cultivator and labour activity), while 15.97% are involved in marginal work.

### Khora<sup>28</sup>

Khora is a Census Town located in the Ghaziabad district of Uttar Pradesh. According to the Census India 2011 report, Khora has a population of 190,005, with 102,574 males and 87,431 females. Children aged 0-6 make up 14.22% of the total population of Khora.

The literacy rate in Khora is 83.44%, significantly higher than the state average of 67.68%. Out of the total population, 58,074 individuals are engaged in work or business activities. Out of the total working population, 84.98% are engaged in main work (business, job, service, and cultivator and labour activity), while 15.02% are involved in marginal work.

# Sample coverage

This section highlights the details of data collection undertaken through qualitative methods and tools.

**Table 6 : Sample covered**

Stakeholders	Target	Achieved
Beneficiaries	20	22
Non-beneficiaries	15	12 (as available)
Alumni	4	7
Prison officers	2	3
Parents	5	8





## Alumni case study

**Name:** Geeta

**Age:** 26 years old

**Location:** Bawana

“Geeta’s journey with the Foundation is a testament to the organization’s transformative impact. From a young beneficiary to a dedicated employee, Geeta’s association spans over two decades.



### Before intervention

At just 7 years old, Geeta’s life took a turning point when she was identified by the Foundation’s outreach program in her neighborhood near Lal Quila. With their support, she was enrolled in Grace Mission High School in Gurgaon, where the Foundation covered half of her school fees, enabling her to access quality education.

Despite facing numerous challenges, including her family’s relocation to Bawana, Geeta persevered and continued her education until 10th grade. Her determination and resilience inspired her to pursue part-time jobs and further her education, ultimately earning a bachelor’s and master’s degree in social work (BSW and MSW) through her own efforts.

This remarkable achievement not only marked a milestone in Geeta’s life but also in her family’s history, as she became the first girl to pursue a master’s degree. Geeta’s story is a testament to the power of education and the impact of the Foundation’s support in transforming lives.

### After intervention

Geeta’s success is a remarkable departure from the path taken by her siblings. While they completed only 10th grade, with one sister marrying at a young age, Geeta defied the odds and pursued education and independence. Her determination has paid off, and today she works at the Foundation, giving back to the community that supported her.

As a former beneficiary, Geeta brings a unique perspective to her role, overseeing the academic progress, financial assistance, and family-related issues of the children under the Foundation’s care. Her personal experience allows her to empathize with the children and families she serves, making her a compassionate and effective advocate for their needs.

Geeta has witnessed the Foundation’s growth and evolution, including the introduction of innovative programs such as parent-child meetings and enhanced career counselling. These initiatives have led to partnerships with government-certified skilling institutes, providing youth with access to computer courses, skills training, and job placement support. By paying it forward, Geeta is helping to create a brighter future for the next generation of children and families.

**In conclusion, Geeta attributes her success to the Foundation, crediting the organization for breaking the cycle of incarceration and empowering her to become an independent individual. Her story serves as a powerful reminder of India Vision Foundation’s instrumental role in transforming lives and creating positive change.**





# जिला कारागार, गाज़ियाबाद (डासना)





# Key Findings

The section outlines the key findings and observations from the activities conducted in the program. These can be categorised into three (03) broad support areas - education, health, and psychosocial support.

## Education support

Education plays a pivotal role in a child's life, **shaping their future** and laying the **foundation for their overall development**. Children are naturally curious and eager to learn, and education provides the structured environment they need to explore/ understand the world around them.

The Foundation understands the challenges in attaining education especially for children with incarcerated parents. Basis the above-identified challenge, the Foundation designed the CVF program to address their **formal education and remedial education needs**. This section highlights the education support provided under the program.

### Enrolment in school

Basis interactions with stakeholders, enrolling children of incarcerated individuals into schools is a major barrier in accessing education. Some of the key challenges faced include:

- ➔ **lack the necessary documents** required for their admissions.
- ➔ **financial constraints**, especially for private education.
- ➔ **social stigma attached to parent's incarceration** creates a hostile school environment,

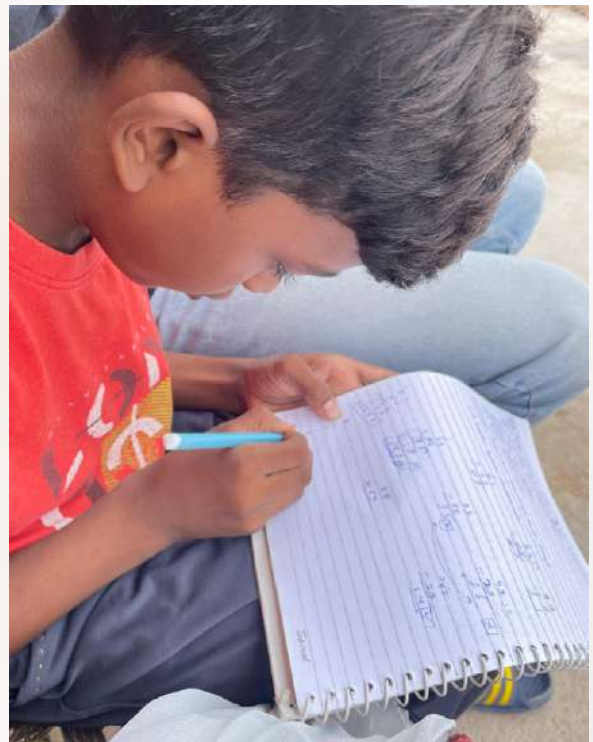


Figure 2: Fifth grade student solving math problem at Ioni - Delhi NCR



Further, interactions with prison authorities revealed that a child up to age **6 years is allowed to reside with their parents in the prison**. As the parent is incarcerated, the procedure for school enrolment does not take place and the child eventually does not attend school.

Children are identified and selected by the Foundation through **referrals from the prison coordinators**. After getting associated with the CVF program, children are enrolled into a formal education system. It was observed that all the supported students from Bawana, Khora, and Loni were enrolled in **either government or private schools and were attending school regularly**. Additionally, it was noted that for children who have misplaced or lacked government documentation, the program team facilitated in preparing of required documentation such as Aadhar Card and coordinated directly with the school administration to facilitate the admission process

#### Key takeaway:

**The program effectively facilitates the first step towards providing access to education.**

As a result of this effort, children are motivated to study and unleash their full potential to become informed, capable individuals. This creates a positive impact in their life.

**Supported students attend school regularly and are eager to succeed in their academic journey.**

Attending school regularly has been a transformative journey for me. The timetable followed by teachers ensure that there is structure, allowing me to learn and maintain a steady growth in my academics. मैं स्कूल जाने के लिए प्रेरित महसूस करता हूँ क्योंकि स्कूल का माहौल सुरक्षित है और मुझे अपने सहपाठियों के साथ पढ़ाई करना अच्छा लगता है

My parents also motivate and encourage me to attend school and study hard. I aspire to become a doctor which is also my father's dream.

**Supported student  
Bawana Colony**

## Financial resources

Financial support is essential for children from low-income or vulnerable families. With parent/s incarceration, income is often impacted, making it challenging to afford educational expenses. Tuition fees, school uniforms, stationery, and other expenses are unaffordable for the guardian or parent. In response, the Foundation has established its own mechanism to deal with such cases. **A need-based system, focused on a vulnerability criterion, determines the level of financial assistance required. This system efficiently assesses the support needed.**

Supported students that attend private schools mentioned that the Foundation assists in paying partial or full amount of their school fees if needed. The level of financial assistance for school fees is determined by the financial condition reported by the **financial index developed** by them. This criterion gets updated on a yearly basis and is tailored basis the needs. **For instance, if the financial index displays that a parent can only pay up to 10% fees then rest 90% is contributed by India Vision Foundation.**

#### Key takeaway:

- Financial assistance is pivotal for vulnerable children in safeguarding their rights and ensuring access to education.
- Interactions with children highlights that the program is able to achieve its objective efficiently by providing uninterrupted education through its financial support initiatives.
- Additionally, provision of school supplies also help students attend school regularly, focus better on their studies and alleviates the stress associated with financial constraints.

## Remedial classes

Homework is an essential part of day-to-day educational activities. Children of incarcerated parent/s often find it difficult to complete their homework on their own and therefore need additional help. The Foundation supports these students by conducting remedial classes with their trainers at the **Bawana Center** while for the Delhi NCR region, they provide financial assistance for tuition as well.

Remedial classes help address learning gaps and enhance academic understanding. **This additional support has significantly increased students' motivation towards learning**, as they can clarify doubts and make substantial progress in their studies. For the Delhi NCR region, students have been regularly attending tuition classes for better understanding and gaining extra study material for their exam preparations. It was mentioned by the students that they have noticed an **improvement in their performance and increased level of confidence in subjects they considered difficult**.

Figure 3 : Bawana Center



### Key takeaway:

- The program supported students who attend remedial classes receive timely guidance on key concepts and queries.
- On the other hand, non-supported students have conveyed lack of confidence in studies and difficulties faced in solving homework.
- Remedial classes provide a 360-degree support system for the students.

1477

“The CVF program plays a vital role in the lives of children with incarcerated parents. At the Bawana Community Center, we have observed significant changes in the confidence levels of children receiving support. These children are not only aware of their family situations but have also taken on the responsibility of studying with determination and maintaining a positive outlook in the face of challenges.

The students feel comfortable interacting with us and openly share their concerns. Through our counselling sessions, we have guided them in managing their emotions wisely and addressing difficult situations with a rational mindset. As a result, their behaviour has noticeably improved, and they have developed a sense of responsibility at a very young age, enabling them to navigate their personal and family situations with maturity.

**Mannu**  
**Counsellor,**  
**Bawana Community Project**

## Career counselling

Youth with incarcerated parent/s may face barriers in pursuing higher education or vocational training. The Foundation help students identify their interests and guides them to achieve their career goals. **Furthermore, the Foundation collaborates with organizations like the GMR Group to train supported beneficiaries in computer sciences, housekeeping, and other skills.** This highlights the determination of the program team to support these students beyond just school-based education.



### Key takeaway:

- The program supported students who attend remedial classes receive timely guidance on key concepts and queries.
- On the other hand, non-supported students have conveyed lack of confidence in studies and difficulties faced in solving homework.
- Remedial classes provide a 360-degree support system for the students.

“”

“After completing my higher education, I got the opportunity to reconnect with the Foundation as a full-time employee. I am working with them for two years. The Foundation has given me the opportunity to work with them as my career aspiration aligns with the job role.

मेरा लक्ष्य समाज के लिए काम करना और समान पृष्ठभूमि से आने वाले बच्चों की मदद करना है।

The career counselling sessions are effective as they understand student's career goal and guide them according to the opportunities available.

**Geeta,  
Former Alumni**

### Conclusion

In conclusion, the program plays a crucial role in ensuring that children have access to their fundamental right to education. It has identified challenges that children with incarcerated parents face. The program team ensures enrolment and provides financial support, for an uninterrupted educational journey. The program also provides career counselling sessions for students to help them identify career and higher education prospects. **This 360-degree support for education safeguards the child from dropping out of school and ensures they receive continuous education till they are self-reliant.**

## Health support

Children require nutrition and a balanced diet to ensure healthy physical and mental development. Additionally, they also require awareness on good hygiene practices, such as regular handwashing, dental care, and bathing etc. These habits protect both physical health and overall well-being.

The Foundation has also designed the program to support health and nutrition aspects. Recognizing that these children often face significant health challenges due to neglect, the program focuses on raising awareness about healthy and unhealthy eating habits, promoting proper sanitation and hygiene practices, and providing special attention to menstrual health and hygiene for adolescent girls.

**Figure 4 : Interaction with a beneficiary at Khoda colony - Delhi NCR**





## Health and Nutrition

Basis interactions, it was highlighted that children's dietary needs are frequently unmet, with restricted access to nutrient-rich food options. This is coupled with poor quality, and reliance on processed food. The Foundation focuses on **promoting good eating habits and provides healthy snacks during remedial sessions at their Bawana Center.**

Further, students in other Delhi NCR location also attend virtual sessions on health and hygiene. Interactions revealed that children now understand the consequences of not maintaining good health and hygiene.

### Key takeaway:

- The program, in its efforts to ensure holistic care, focuses on providing children the right resources to lead healthy lives.
- With the absence of parent/s, children tend to lean towards easily accessible unhealthy and poor-quality food.
- By conducting awareness sessions and offering nutritious snacks, children learn to make informed choices about their diet. This sets an example for their future.

“”

स्कूल से लौटने के बाद मैं बेसब्री से अपनी माँ के हाथ के बने खाने का इंतज़ार करता हूँ। मेरा पसंदीदा भोजन 'फूल गोभी की सब्जी' है। During our online meetings, the Foundation team emphasized the negative effects of consuming junk food. As I aspire of becoming a footballer, I am committed to sticking to wholesome, homemade meals.

**Support student**  
**Khora colony**

“”

“Children supported by the CVF program in Khora Colony have undergone a transformative journey, particularly in terms of their education and psychosocial development. After completing their time at the hostel, many students have maintained a structured routine, reflecting the positive habits instilled during the program. From a young age, these children have shown remarkable resilience, identifying the challenges they face and remaining motivated to improve their circumstances. They cooperate with their parents during hardships and approach the difficult situation of parental incarceration with a mature, positive outlook.

Students with younger siblings pass on their life lessons, growing together as a united family. These children have demonstrated a strong sense of responsibility, increasingly focusing on their education and career goals. They actively seek guidance on how to achieve these goals and are committed to working towards a better future. This reflects the profound impact the program has had on their development and outlook.”

**Jacob John**  
**Counsellor, Home Support**



## Hygiene and sanitation

In the absence of parental care at home, children have **limited access** to clean water and sanitation facilities/ provisions. This is coupled with poor living conditions leading to infestations or Mold, and a **higher risk of illnesses and infections.** The Foundation provides **information about appropriate hygiene behaviours and COVID-19 appropriate practices to address these challenges.** In Bawana, they have distributed hygiene kits to children and conducted awareness sessions on maintaining good hygiene for a healthy life. Distributing health and hygiene kits to children effectively promoted their well-being, mitigated the spread of illnesses, and fostered a culture of cleanliness and self-care among vulnerable youth. These sessions included instructions on washing and cleaning hands before and after meals, bathing regularly, cleaning nails, and brushing teeth twice a day.



## Menstrual hygiene

Female students have **limited access to sanitary products** (pads, tampons, etc.), **inadequate awareness of menstrual health and hygiene**, and a higher risk of reproductive tract infections and health issues. **The Foundation helps in developing good habits and encourages discussions with beneficiaries on menstrual hygiene management.**

In Bawana, the Foundation organizes menstrual hygiene awareness sessions led by experts and distributes sanitary napkins. These sessions, specifically conducted for female students in eighth grade and above, are instrumental in raising awareness about menstrual hygiene. They provide valuable information on how to properly care for oneself and manage menstrual health effectively. The Foundation also facilitates regular supply of sanitary napkins to all the CVF girls of menstruating age. Such initiatives fulfil basic necessities for female health and instil confidence and dignity.

### Key takeaway:

- Female students receive appropriate education on menstrual health management, which fosters an environment to discuss issues openly.
- This empowers children to take extra care of themselves and improve their living standards with respect to hygiene and sanitation.
- The program has helped develop both practice and knowledge-based understanding for students.

In eighth grade, I attended a session on menstrual hygiene where we were taught about the importance of maintaining cleanliness during menstruation and how to properly use sanitary napkins. The session also covered tips on managing menstrual discomfort and staying healthy during the cycle.

**Support student**  
**Khora colony**

### Conclusion

In conclusion, the Foundation is dedicated to raising awareness about hygiene practices and a healthy lifestyle. Children, especially those living alone due to their parents' incarceration, often neglect their hygiene and sanitation practices. Female students with incarcerated mothers face additional challenges in understanding and managing their menstrual cycles. The program addresses these gaps by providing support and education, empowering students to become aware and responsible for their health. It equips them with the knowledge to be self-reliant and maintain high standards of hygiene and sanitation.

# Psychosocial support

Psychosocial support is crucial for children with incarcerated parents as it helps them **navigate the emotional and social challenges**. Children often experience feelings of isolation and anxiety, which can impact their mental health and overall well-being. Providing psychosocial support, such as counselling and mentorship helps them **build resilience, and develop healthy coping mechanisms. This support also fosters a positive perspective and encourages them to form healthy relationships in society.**

Through this program, the Foundation team works closely with students and their families, providing individual attention to address their issues and guide them towards positive solutions. It includes counselling sessions and various activities that cater to the students' and families' emotional well-being and foster a sense of belongingness in society.



## Counselling session

The incarceration of a parent can lead to reduced guidance and support for the children. Frequent changes in caregivers or living situations can disrupt their stability, and incarcerated parents may not be able to model positive behaviours or values. The Foundation engages in **individual counselling sessions** to help them understand and manage their emotions.

The location SPOC is my first point of contact for any family problems I want to discuss. मैं अपनी समस्याएँ फ़ाउंडेशन टीम के साथ साझा करने में सहज महसूस करता/करती हूँ, और वे मुझे इस प्रक्रिया के दौरान मज़बूत बने रहने के लिए परामर्श देते हैं। उनका समर्थन विशेष रूप से कठिन समय में अमूल्य रहा है।

**Supported student**  
**Bawana**

We We frequently connect with the Foundation team, and the location SPOC (Single Point of Contact) often visits our home to understand our current situation. As we are currently facing financial issues, the SPOC is helping us figure out ways to generate income and manage our bills on time. मैं परिवार का इकलौता कमाने वाला सदस्य हूँ, और मुझे अपनी समस्याओं से निपटने और इस प्रक्रिया के दौरान प्रेरित रहने के लिए टीम से उचित समाधान प्राप्त होते हैं।

**Family member of the supported student, Loni**

The program team schedules **home visits** to provide one-on-one conversations and counselling for both the child and their family. These sessions have proven effective, with both parents and children expressing **satisfaction** with the interactions. Parents have noted that the program team offers **practical and logical solutions** to their problems, providing the strength and motivation needed to act. During these sessions, issues related to family income, financial challenges, and legal support are discussed. Students have also mentioned that they receive emotional support and companionship during difficult times. The program ensures the **confidentiality of information shared** during counselling sessions.

“As part of my work in Loni, I conduct scheduled home visits aimed at supporting the households of the beneficiary. Together with my team, we offer personalized counselling sessions to both the children and their family members. These sessions allow us to understand their current circumstances, including if any legal challenges, employment and income issues, health and well-being concerns, family conflicts, and matters related to the safety and upbringing of their children.

These home visits are essential to the program, as they help us build trust and foster deeper connections with the families. Over time, this consistent presence has allowed them to recognize our role and become more comfortable sharing their struggles with us. In addition to in-person visits, we provide ongoing telecall support, enabling families to reach out to us for guidance at any time, ensuring they have access to continuous assistance.

**Vaishnavi**  
**Counselor, Home Support**

Additionally, **tele-call services** are available for students and parents to connect with the program team and discuss their issues for quick resolutions. Students also visit the Bawana Center when they feel alone at home, as it provides a safe place to be when their caretakers or parents are not present.

### Key takeaway:

- It can be inferred that through the program, the Foundation team is a trusted and reliable contact for families during difficult times.
- Both parents and children feel safe and confident sharing their issues, knowing they will receive guidance to tackle their situations.



## Alumni case study

Name: Rinki

Age: 28 years old

Location: Khora Colony



Rinki, a mother of three, works as a security guard in a store near Shipra Mall, earning INR 10,000 per month.



### Before intervention

Her husband's incarceration has left her as the primary breadwinner, struggling to make ends meet, particularly with her children's education expenses. India Vision Foundation stepped in to support Rinki and her family, providing counselling sessions and financial assistance for tuition fees.

### After intervention

Nazia from the ground team encouraged Rinki to enrol her children in school, emphasizing the importance of education for their independence. With the Foundation's support, Rinki's children are now enrolled, and she feels emotionally supported, no longer alone in her struggles.

**In conclusion, her perspective has broadened, and she now aspires for her children to excel in studies and pursue computer courses. The home environment has become more positive, with the Foundation's presence making a tangible difference. Through the Foundation's intervention, Rinki has been empowered to create a better future for her children, fostering a sense of hope and positivity in their lives.**



## Cultural event celebrations and exposure visits

Living under difficult circumstances, incarcerated children often experience low motivation and limited opportunities for joy. The Foundation recognizes the importance of uplifting these children and enhancing their overall well-being. **To boost their morale and bring happiness into their lives, the Foundation emphasizes on celebrating cultural events and organizing exposure trips.** Celebrating cultural events such as Independence Day not only instills a sense of pride and belonging but also provides a festive atmosphere that can significantly lift the spirits of the children.

Additionally, **organizing exposure trips** to historical sites like the Red Fort (Lal Qila) and other monuments offers these children a chance to step out of their challenging environments and experience the richness of their cultural heritage firsthand. These outings are not just educational but also provide a much-needed break from their daily routines, allowing them to create joyful memories and broaden their horizons.

### Key takeaway:

- Through these initiatives, it can be inferred that the Foundation fosters a sense of community, cultural appreciation, and personal growth among the children, helping them envision a brighter future.
- Exposure visits and cultural event celebrations not only create good memories but also enhance their knowledge about the cultural significance, meaning, and historical background of the places they visit.

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मैंने इंडिया विज़न फ़ाउंडेशन के माध्यम से दो एक्सपोज़र विज़िट्स में भाग लिया है। सबसे हाल की यात्रा में, हम अक्षरधाम मंदिर गए थे। It was a day trip, and we travelled in a group with other children on a bus arranged by the foundation team. यह यात्रा यादगार और मजेदार थी, क्योंकि हमने न केवल आनंद लिया, बल्कि अपनी संस्कृति के बारे में बहुत कुछ सीखा।

Support student  
Khora colony




### Conclusion

Psychosocial support is crucial for children with incarcerated parents to help them navigate isolation, stigma, and anxiety. Acknowledging this, the Foundation offers individualised support in terms of counselling, home visits, and tele-call services to both children and their families in such situations. These interventions not only strengthen emotional well-being but also offer practical solutions and foster trust, thus establishing the Bawana Center as a safe space when caregivers are absent. The Foundation also celebrates cultural events and organizes exposure trips to historical sites to promote cultural appreciation, joy, and personal growth. These initiatives allow children to build resilience, envision brighter futures, and foster healthy relationships.

# Key analysis: OECD DAC Principles

The table below highlights the key aspects of the program basis five key principles: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability.

**Table 7: Key analysis - OECD DAC principles**

OECD DAC Principles	
	<p><b>Relevance</b></p> <p>Early childhood education lays the foundation for future success, but children with incarcerated parents face unique challenges. The CVF program addresses these challenges by providing <b>educational support, facilitating school enrolment, and offering financial assistance for essential resources</b>. Additionally, CVF promotes healthy habits through <b>nutrition education and activities</b>, and offers <b>counselling sessions to help children cope with the trauma and stress of parental incarceration</b>. By providing a comprehensive support system, CVF helps these children build resilience, stay motivated, and develop a positive outlook, ultimately mitigating the negative impacts of parental incarceration on their education and well-being.</p>
	<p><b>Effectiveness</b></p> <p>The CVF program has made a meaningful impact on children's lives by providing <b>educational support, remedial classes, and financial assistance</b>. Counselling sessions have fostered a supportive home environment, keeping students motivated. <b>Positive feedback from students and parents reflects the program's success</b>. Additionally, India Vision Foundation's virtual sessions have instilled <b>healthy habits, improved hygiene practices, and empowered female students through menstrual hygiene awareness</b>. Tailored counselling sessions offer emotional support and practical solutions, helping families navigate challenges. Regular visits and consistent communication have created a sense of connection, enabling them to cope with stress. Overall, the program has provided a supportive lifeline, making a profound impact on vulnerable students and parents.</p>
	<p><b>Efficiency</b></p> <p>The program's strategic approach efficiently addresses the vulnerabilities of children through financial and psychosocial support, tailored to their individual needs. By <b>allocating resources effectively, the program fosters overall development and well-being</b>, safeguarding their rights and paving the way for a brighter future. The <b>need-based approach</b> bridges critical gaps in nutrition, hygiene, and guidance, recognizing each child's unique background and level of vulnerability. The program's assessment criteria, including adult supervision, age, gender, and living conditions, ensure targeted support, demonstrating its efficiency in addressing the challenges faced by vulnerable children.</p>



## OECD DAC Principles



### Sustainability

CVF's on-ground team monitors students' progress organizes cultural programs, career workshops, and health education. The **Foundation's holistic approach includes menstrual hygiene awareness, family counselling to repair strained relationships, and financial support for uninterrupted education.** Alumni connections and counselling motivate students to pursue their dreams, breaking the cycle of incarceration and unlocking a future of confidence, stability, and financial security. By instilling essential life skills, **CVF enables successful integration into mainstream society.**



### Impact

The CVF program has **effectively addressed challenges to accessing education, including financial constraints and lack of parental support, through remedial classes and vocational skill-building initiatives.** This has **improved school attendance** and **enabled a successful education-to-employment pipeline.** The Foundation prioritizes health and wellness, promoting healthy eating habits and providing nutritious snacks. Its **comprehensive approach: combining education, health support, and psychosocial counselling,** has made a profound impact on children's lives, nurturing growth, and development. This **holistic methodology empowers children to overcome adversity, nurturing hope and promise for a thriving tomorrow.**



## Alumni case study

Name: Anushka

Age: 17 years old

Location: Khora Colony

“Anushka is a 17-year-old student residing in Khora Colony, Ghaziabad, with her mother, father, and brother. She is currently studying in 12th grade, at the Government Girls Senior Secondary School, Kalyanpuri.



### Before intervention

Anushka's association with the Foundation began in 2018 when she was in 6th grade. At the time of association, she was immediately enrolled in a hostel and attended a Convent school till 7th grade. The Foundation team facilitated this crucial step in her educational journey so that she can focus on her studies. Hostel provided her with a structured and guided environment where students were taught discipline and dedication.

### After intervention

Anushka at a young age learned to be self-reliant. She learnt to manage her tasks independently and adhere to a fixed routine. Hostel life also taught students the importance healthy meals, maintaining hygiene and sanitation, and fostering a sense of unity with peers. During her time at the hostel, Anushka was allowed to meet her parents once a month, which gave her the motivation to excel academically and pursue her goals.

After completing her time at the hostel, Anushka returned home to live with her parents. The Foundation continued to support her by helping her parents find a suitable school and facilitating the admission process. Anushka has consistently performed well academically. Currently, she is preparing for her CBSE board examinations in 2025 while also studying for competitive medical entrance exams. Anushka shares her learnings with her sibling and helps her parents with household chores.

**In conclusion, Anushka is a dedicated individual with high aspirations. She aims to become a lab technician and is interested in pursuing a degree in either medical or biotechnology. Along with her exam preparations, she has shown interest in career development programs initiated by the Foundation, including applying for internships. The Foundation's mission to provide uninterrupted education and career support has played a significant role in motivating Anushka despite her challenging circumstances.**

# Comparative analysis

The CVF program adopts a multifaceted approach to provide holistic development, support, and care to children of incarcerated parents. To summarize the program's efforts in creating a better future for these children, the following section draws a comparison between supported and non-supported students, highlighting the key interventions that contribute to their brighter future.

**Table 8 : Education Comparative Analysis**



Challenges (Education)	Program Beneficiaries	Non-beneficiaries
<b>Lack of access to resources</b>	The Foundation team assists with document preparation (like Aadhaar Cards) and works with school administrations to ensure the confidentiality of students' backgrounds.	Due to a lack of resources, children are unable to prepare the required documents, making it difficult for them to enrol in government schools. The study found that those without documents did not attend school. Furthermore, their household income was insufficient to cover the costs of private schools.
Key takeaway: The program has made a tangible difference in the lives of students it supports, bridging resource gaps and opening doors to improved life prospects and enhanced opportunities.		
<b>Lack of financial resources</b>	The program takes care of the expenses for vulnerable children. The amount of financial support a beneficiary receives is determined by their vulnerability index categorization in India Vision Foundation's records. This support includes financial assistance for school uniforms, tuition fees, remedial classes, stationery, and other related expenses.	Non-beneficiaries are dependent on their parents or caregivers to cover the costs associated with their education. Since, most of these children are from low-income households it is difficult for them to access necessary tools of education.
Key takeaway: The program optimizes resource allocation through its financial framework and vulnerability index, ensuring targeted support and judicious use of funds to meet essential expenses		





Challenges (Education)	Program Beneficiaries	Non-beneficiaries
<b>Access remedial classes</b>	The students receive remedial classes at the Bawana center. Those residing in Loni and Khora are reimbursed for taking tuitions from centers near their homes.	Financial resources at home determine access to remedial classes. Additionally, due to low education level among the incarcerated households the non-beneficiaries find it difficult to get assistance with homework and other school related activities.
Key takeaway: By providing access to remedial classes, the program fills a crucial need for its beneficiaries, addressing educational disparities and helping to counteract poor performance that often affects non-beneficiaries.		
<b>Limited access to post-secondary education</b>	Students are exposed to various career options from a young age through alumni meet-ups and assessments. They acquire skills through collaborations with organizations like GMR, and their placements are facilitated.	They are deprived of these opportunities because they do not receive continuous guidance. They lack clear vision for their career path and face difficulties in identifying their aspirations.
Key takeaway: The program empowers students with a brighter future by providing comprehensive career counselling and valuable exposure opportunities		

**Table 9 : Health Comparative Analysis**



Challenges (Health)	Program Beneficiaries	Non-beneficiaries
<b>Malnutrition</b>	The program focuses on improving the dietary habits of students. It focuses on information dissemination and awareness sessions for students and parents on good health and hygiene.	There are no such provisions for non-beneficiaries. They lack access to nutrient rich meals and tend to consume easily available and unhygienic street food.
Key takeaway: The program prioritizes combating malnutrition through education and awareness initiatives.		
<b>Lack of awareness on hygiene</b>	Students are provided with session on menstrual health and hygiene. They know the importance of washing hands regularly, keeping themselves and their surroundings clean. Students are equipped with the right knowledge.	Basis interactions, girls are unaware of menstrual hygiene and its relevance. They are afraid to talk about their menstrual cycles and did not have the right knowledge to address their concerns. Further, there is an overall lack of awareness on good hygiene practices.
Key takeaway: The program educates adolescent girls on menstrual health, challenging societal myths and promoting healthy practices.		

## Alumni case study

Name: Rahul

Age: 17 years old

Location: Khora Colony



Rahul is a 17-year-old student living in Khora Colony in Ghaziabad with his parents and three brothers. He is currently studying in the 11th grade at a school in Vasundhara Enclave.

### Before intervention

Rahul's journey with the foundation began during his early years when he was enrolled in a hostel by India Vision Foundation. He attended Saint James Convent School during this time. Life in the hostel was structured and disciplined, with a routine that required him to complete all his tasks and attend school on time. These three years in the hostel had a profound impact on Rahul, shaping his sense of discipline and time management. He became accustomed to living by a routine, which helped him stay focused and develop a determination towards his studies. During her time at the hostel, Rahul was allowed to meet her parents once a month, which gave her the motivation to excel academically and pursue her goals.

### After intervention

Upon completing his time at the hostel, Rahul returned home, but the discipline and routine he had developed stayed with him. Through the assistance from India Vision Foundation, he was enrolled in a government school in Vasundhara Enclave, Ghaziabad. As he became deeply committed to his studies, he also discovered a passion for football. Rahul now aspires to pursue football professionally and intends to follow this dream alongside his academic pursuits after completing his schooling. His determination, shaped by his time in the hostel, continues to drive him toward achieving his goals.

**Rahul's journey with the India Vision Foundation instilled discipline and time management, skills he developed during his hostel stay. After returning home and enrolling in a government school, Rahul stayed committed to his studies while discovering a passion for football. He now aspires to pursue the sport professionally alongside his education. The foundation's continued support has helped Rahul remain focused on his goals, showcasing how early intervention can foster resilience and ambition for a brighter future.**

**Table 10 : Psychosocial comparative analysis**



Challenges (Psychosocial)	Program Beneficiaries	Non-beneficiaries
<b>Lack of access to resources and guidance</b>	Counselling sessions are provided to both students and parents. The program team determines the extent of psychosocial interventions required. Home visits are also initiated. These initiatives ensure a sense of safety, and increased self-confidence.	Children lack access to such resources and often experience a sense of isolation. They also do not have any professional help to manage their emotions during the stressful time of parental incarceration.
Key takeaway: The program provides comprehensive psychosocial support through counselling, home visits, and tailored interventions, fostering a safe environment and boosting self-confidence for students and parents.		
<b>Lack of exposure and peer bonding</b>	Cultural events are celebrated at the Bawana Center and virtually for the Loni and Khora beneficiaries. Additionally, visits to monuments are organized. These activities expose children to new experiences and also encourages interactions with their peers.	The children typically come from lower socio-economic backgrounds. With parental incarceration and the financial strain, there is a lack of opportunity to visit such places. Children are confined to their homes and neighbouring places. This acts as a barrier towards new experiences and knowledge.
Key takeaway: The program enriches beneficiaries' lives through cultural events, virtual celebrations, and educational outings, fostering social interactions, cultural awareness, and new experiences.		





# Recommendations

Post an assessment of the CVF program through available literature and stakeholder discussions, it can be inferred that India Vision Foundation has played a pivotal role catering to its beneficiaries across themes. The projects provided support to incarcerated children in the areas of education, psychosocial and health and its efforts have been instrumental in shaping their lives.

Going forward, India Vision Foundation may consider the below points for planning or execution of its CVF program.



## Education

- ➔ **Scholarship and Mentorship Program:** To bolster the educational support, scholarship program along with financial support to children excelling in academics or extracurricular activities can be introduced. Pair this with a mentorship program that connects each child with professionals from various fields, offering personalized guidance. Mentors would focus on academic support, career exposure, and life skills development, helping children explore career paths and personal growth. Additionally, group workshops and industry networking opportunities could expand their knowledge. Regular monitoring and renewal of scholarships based on progress, combined with mentor support, would ensure long-term impact, and foster both educational and personal development.
- ➔ **Good practices:** The Pratham Education Foundation empowers disadvantaged children through comprehensive support programs. By providing scholarships for academic excellence, mentorship for holistic development, and a focus on education, skills, and career growth, Pratham helps bridge the gap for underprivileged communities. Through its initiatives, Pratham has transformed the lives of millions of children across India.



## Health

- ➔ **Generic medical evaluation:** To enhance the health support provided by the foundation, the program may include monthly or quarterly medical evaluations for the supported students to understand their specific health needs. Medical evaluations are crucial for a child's health improvement as they enable early detection and treatment of health issues, ensuring timely intervention. This proactive approach will help identify common health issues faced by children early on. Maintaining a health profile for each location (Bawana, Loni, and Khora) will highlight common health challenges faced. By understanding and addressing the specific health needs of each child, the program can provide guidance to the parent or the caretaker on time to take immediate actions in needed.
- ➔ **Good practices:** The Doctors For You organization conducts generic medical evaluations for children through its several programs, such as the Child Health Program and School Health Program, where they conduct comprehensive health check-ups. These include, Physical examinations, Growth monitoring, Immunizations, Health education, Nutrition counselling, Referrals for specialized care, among others.

These holistic evaluations aim to identify and address health issues early, promoting overall well-being and development in children.



## Psychosocial

- ➔ **Peer group gathering at Loni and Khora:** The Bawana community center plays a crucial role in bringing supported students together, creating a sense of belonging and safety. It is essential to establish similar support for children in Loni and Khora. Currently, the program does not have a planned number of exposure visits, resulting in fewer opportunities for supported students in Loni and Khora to interact with their peers. Planning monthly and quarterly peer group gatherings for supported students in Loni and Khora will foster a sense of togetherness and belonging. Socializing with peers from the same group can increase motivation, promote positive development, and facilitate learning from one another. These gatherings can include fun team-building exercises, helping children develop social skills, build friendships, and learn the value of teamwork.



## Additional

- ➔ **Monitoring and evaluation:** It has been observed during discussions with the program team and resource personnel that the foundation may focus on enhancing its monitoring and evaluation mechanism. Implementing such a system is crucial from an operational standpoint to track and measure the program's effectiveness and efficiency. For example, maintaining milestones of planned monthly or quarterly home visits, the number of students supported for school fees, and the number / types of virtual sessions planned each month or quarter can provide valuable insights for the program operations. Setting these milestones helps define the program's effectiveness in delivering timely support to students and achieving its objectives. By regularly assessing progress and outcomes, the foundation can identify areas for improvement, and make informed decisions. This systematic approach not only enhances the program's impact but also ensures that it continues to meet the needs of the children.
- ➔ **Reports or documentation about the support:** The foundation should consider preparing quarterly or yearly program reports to document their impact and highlight program outcomes. These reports should detail the program activities conducted and the impact created. By systematically documenting and sharing these insights, the foundation can demonstrate its effectiveness, ensure transparency, and provide valuable information to stakeholders about the progress and success of the program.

By implementing these strategic recommendations, India Vision Foundation can further enhance the impact of its CVF program, ultimately transforming the lives of more vulnerable children.

## Testimonials by prison authorities



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As a Deputy Jailor in Ghaziabad from 2022-24, I collaborated with the CVF program to support vulnerable children of incarcerated parents. My role involved facilitating and coordinating with the program team to ensure effective support for these children. Through the program, we provided uninterrupted education and financial assistance to children during their parents' incarceration, empowering them to manage their education and live independently.

The CVF program offers comprehensive support to children of incarcerated parents, addressing their educational, health, and psychosocial needs. According to government regulations, children above six years old must live with a caretaker or guardian, making the program's 360-degree support crucial for their well-being. I have witnessed the profound impact of the Foundation's efforts, which have helped children gain confidence and independence, even in the absence of their parents.

**Sanjay Shahi**  
**Jailor, Gautam Buddha Nagar**  
**Uttar Pradesh**



“

I served as Superintendent of District Jail, Ghaziabad (2021-2024), where I led a team that implemented groundbreaking prison reform initiatives. One of our most notable achievements was empowering women prisoners by connecting their hobbies with vocational skills, which helped them develop a sense of purpose, self-reliance, and independence.

We also prioritized the well-being of their children, providing education and psychosocial support beyond the age of 6. It was heartwarming to see the impact of initiatives like parent-child meetings and pre-recorded messages for Mother's and Father's Day celebrations, which brought joy and hope to the families.

After 33 years of service, I have witnessed firsthand the remarkable impact of India Vision Foundation's collaboration with our team. Their dedication and support have made a significant difference in the lives of these women and their families. I commend the team for their outstanding work and commitment to rehabilitation and reintegration.

It is inspiring to see organizations like India Vision Foundation working tirelessly to make a positive impact in the lives of those who need it most. Their work is a testament to the power of collaboration and dedication to creating a better future for all.

**Alok Singh**  
**Superintendent, UP Prison**  
**Uttar Pradesh**



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- Owing to communication gap and the inherent human instinct to report everything as above-expectations and glitch-free, it was challenging to make interviewees understand the purpose of the survey and ensure that correct data was accordingly gathered. In the absence of baseline data, responses for retrospective questions are based on the respondents' ability to recall past information.
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