



2024 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

India: Rainbow Homes Shelter and education for street girls

In 2024, Rainbow Homes, implemented through Loreto Homes in India, continued its mission to provide a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment for vulnerable children and youth. With a focus on comprehensive child-centric care, the program reached hundreds of girls in Kolkata through residential homes, community-based care, and futures programs. This report highlights our key achievements and impact, followed by detailed sections outlining our work and challenges.

Impact & Achievements



289 girls supported through Residential Homes, Community-Based Care, and Futures Programs.



144 children provided with safe residential care, individualized education plans, and enrollment in mainstream schools.



43 children engaged through Community-Based Care, with personalized education support and family involvement.



81 adolescents and young adults supported in Futures Programs, receiving life skills, vocational training, and career guidance.



Health camps conducted quarterly, ensuring comprehensive medical and wellness support.



14 young adults successfully placed in jobs in sectors such as hospitality, healthcare, and garment manufacturing.

Residential homes and hostels

The residential homes provided 144 girls with a safe, voluntary, and non-custodial living environment. Each child received personalized educational support through individualized education plans based on assessments of their academic and special needs. All children were enrolled in mainstream government schools and participated in remedial education, ICT training, and life skills classes. After-school activities included dance, rugby, karate, arts and crafts, and excursions. Daily nutrition was ensured with three balanced meals tailored to dietary needs. Monthly and quarterly distributions of clothing, hygiene products, and toiletries supported the girls' well-being. Quarterly health camps addressed overall health, with special sessions on first aid, hygiene, nutrition, and malnutrition led by health professionals.

Community-based care

The community-based care program reached 43 children living with families or guardians. It focused on ensuring education, child protection, and essential development services. Parents received orientation on program expectations, child protection, and consent procedures. Personalized education plans were developed in collaboration with families, with all children enrolled in nearby government schools.

Additional support included tuition, ICT training, life skills sessions, and career exposure visits. Quarterly food supplements, monthly hygiene products, and annual clothing distributions further supported families. Health camps addressed dental, eye, and reproductive health needs, ensuring holistic well-being.

Futures programs

The futures program supported 81 adolescents (aged 15–18) and young adults (aged 19–23) transitioning to independent living. Adolescents participated in life education programs focused on self-awareness, empathy, and problem-solving. Summer camps offered training on job readiness, financial education, and life skills such as budgeting, savings, and online transactions.

Young adults explored career pathways through orientation sessions and exposure visits to workplaces including banks, police stations, and IT companies. They also received training on CV development, professional ethics, and confidence building. Internships were arranged in sectors such as hotel management, nursing, and fashion design. As of March 2025, 14 young adults secured employment in accounting, beauty services, hotels, hospitals, and the garment sector.

Capacity building

To ensure quality care and services, Rainbow Homes organized staff training on topics such as child rights, responsible citizenship, gender equality, POSH, anger management, and creating inclusive environments. New staff members were recruited and trained to strengthen the program's capacity.

Parent meetings

Regular meetings with parents and guardians were held to raise awareness about child rights, early marriage, child trafficking, nutrition, and essential government schemes. Eleven sessions were conducted, each attended by over 50 parents on average. Parents were encouraged to obtain necessary documentation such as birth certificates and Aadhaar cards for their children.

Challenges

Despite new staff recruitment, the high ratio of home mothers to children remained a challenge, especially during staff leave periods. Limited space for remedial classes was another constraint, which was temporarily addressed with portable classroom partitions.



Nutritious meal during lunchtime



Two adolescent girls in Futures Program



Girls playing a game outside

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