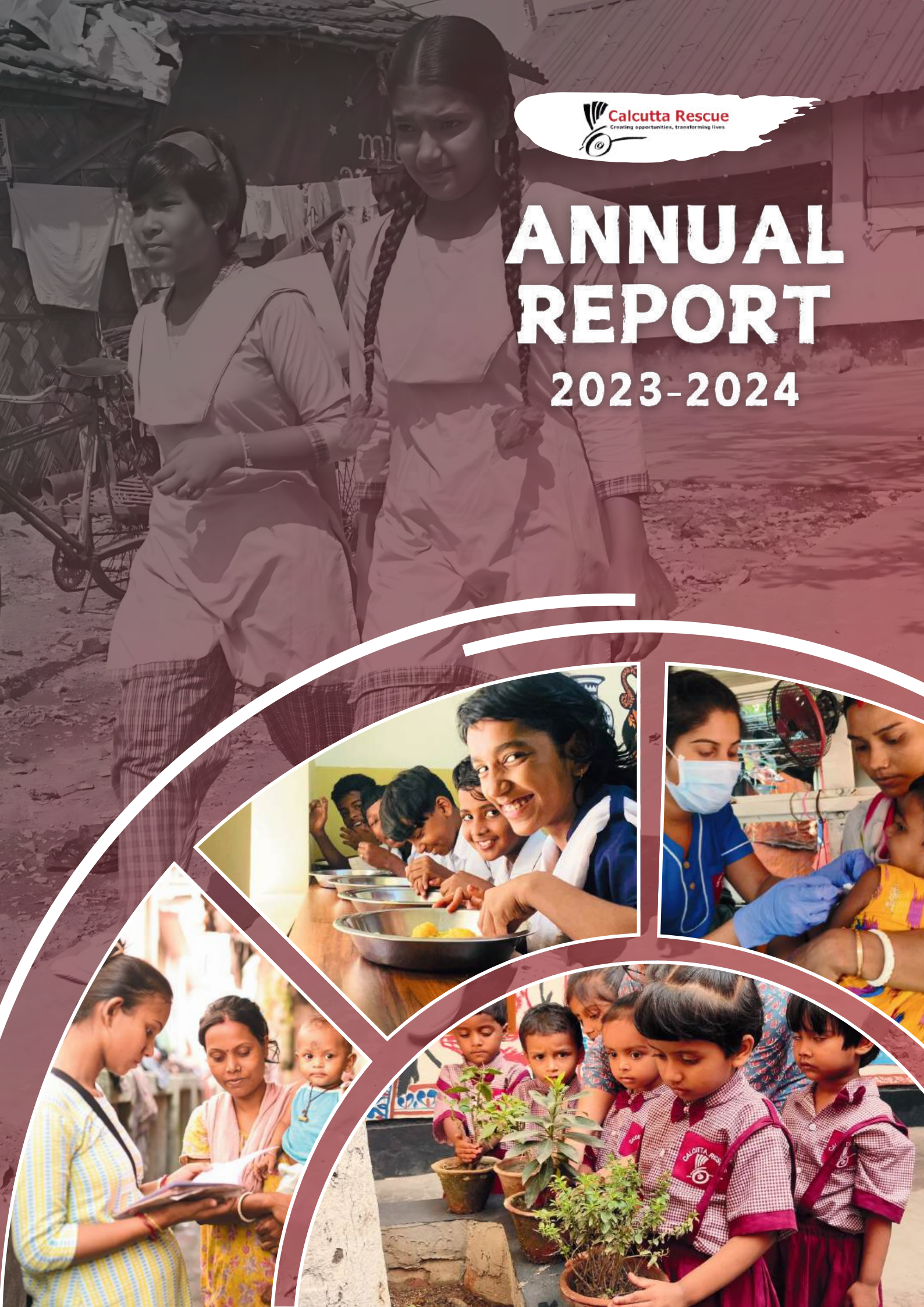




ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024



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ABOUT US

Calcutta Rescue is a non-governmental organisation providing free, high-quality healthcare, education, hygienic living standards, mental health counselling, and vocational training to over 50,000 people. Serving some of the most impoverished communities in 50 slums across Kolkata and wider West Bengal, India, Calcutta Rescue reaches these beneficiaries and empowers them toward a healthier and more stable future.

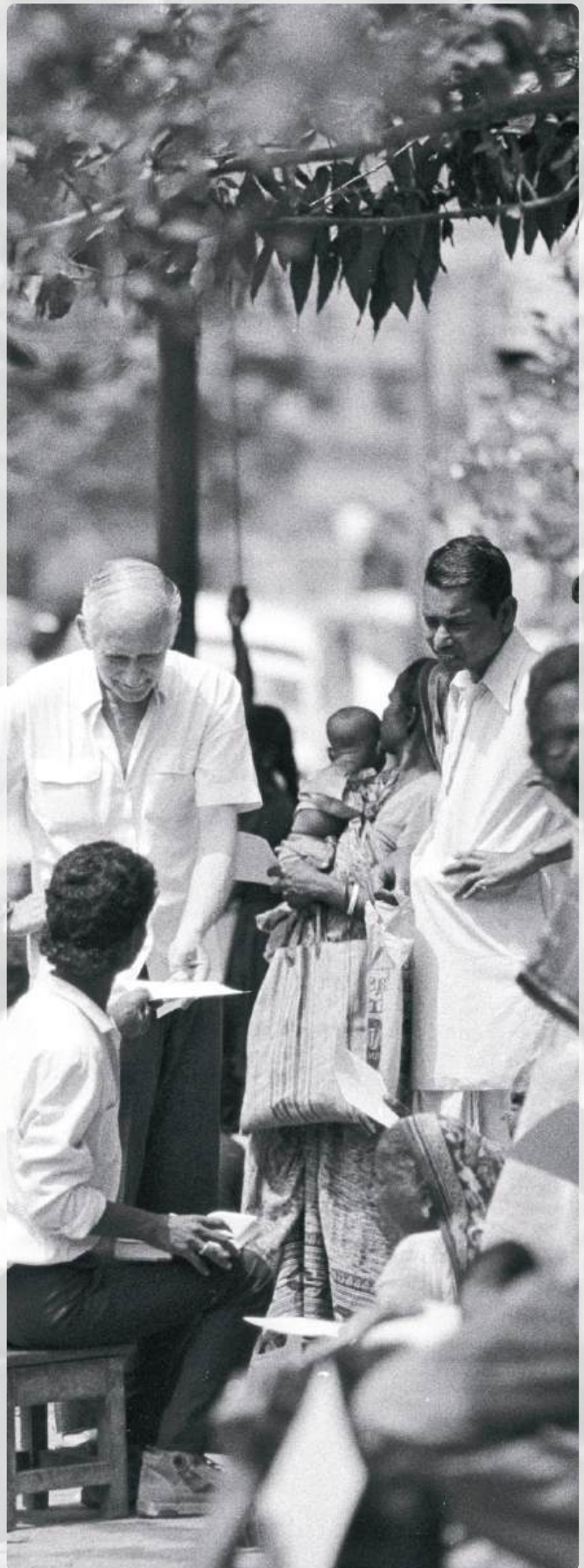
OUR VISION

Creating Opportunities,
Transforming Lives.

OUR MISSION

Calcutta Rescue works significantly to enhance the well-being, learning and living standards of the poorest communities in and around Kolkata. It will also provide specialist healthcare assistance for people approaching us from other areas where such services are deficient.

Calcutta Rescue will work in areas of high need where there is inadequate provision by government, non-profit or private organisations. It will initiate alliances and work collaboratively with other organisations to ensure the delivery of quality services to these communities.



Dr Jack Preger, Founder of Calcutta Rescue treating patients in the streets of Middleton Row, Park Street (1987).

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends of Calcutta Rescue,

Reflecting on the past year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for our remarkable progress at Calcutta Rescue.

Our healthcare, education, and living standards programs have had a profound impact on vulnerable communities in Kolkata and rural West Bengal. From life-saving medical treatments to ensuring children's and mothers' nutritional needs are met, our teams have tirelessly provided hope and dignity.

In healthcare, our clinics offer free, high-quality care, extended vaccination drives, and treat chronic patients. **Our 1000-Day Programme supported expecting mothers and young children with essential medical and nutritional care.**

Education has empowered hundreds of children, breaking the cycle of poverty. Students like Kaikasha and Lucky excelled academically, earning, supporting their families and proving the power of opportunity.

Our handicrafts training programs have restored livelihoods, offering skills for dignified employment. **We are promoting sustainability through initiatives like vermicomposting.**

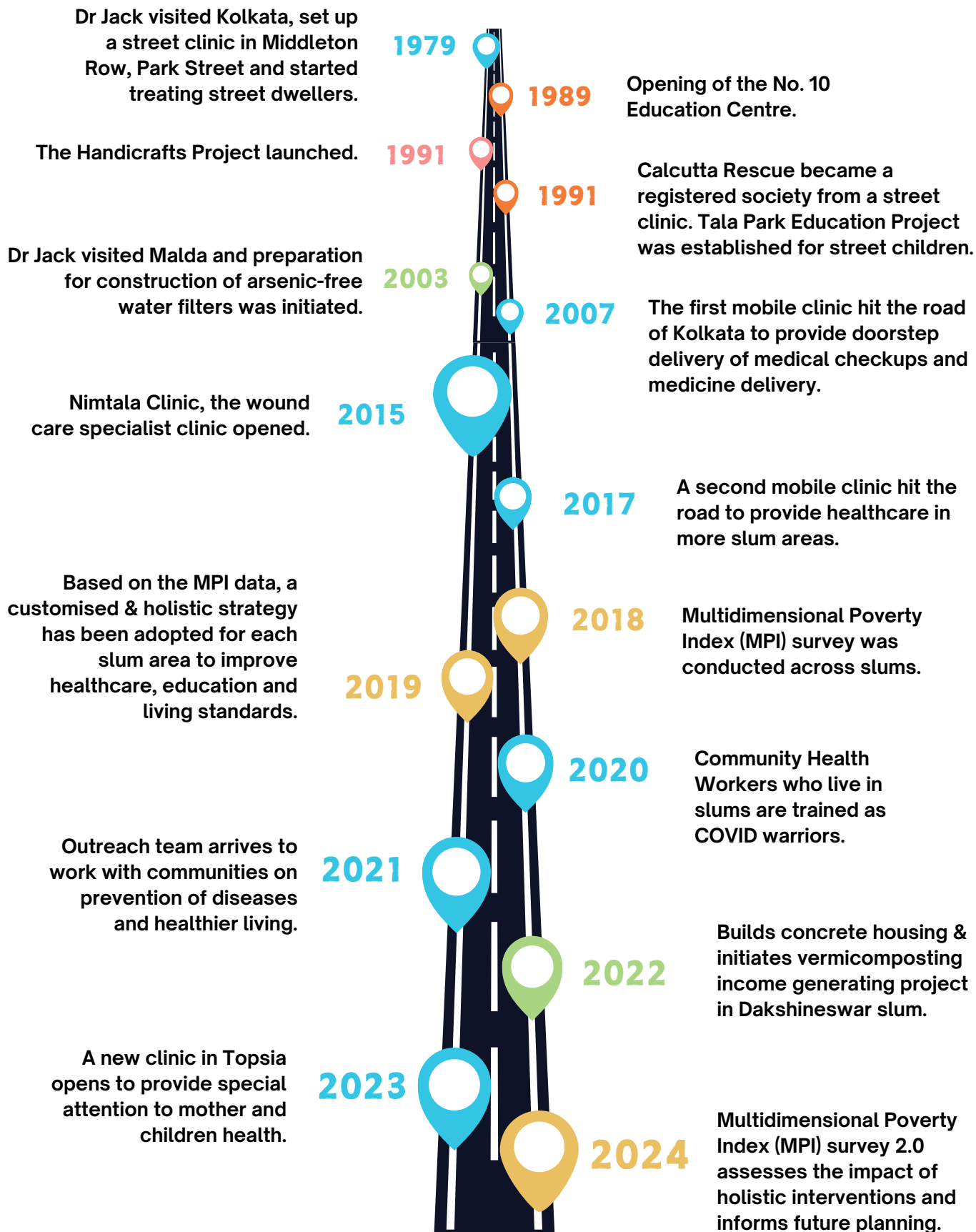
This is only possible with our staff, volunteers, and donors. Your belief in our mission propels us forward. **Together, we can continue to build a society where no one is left behind.**

With gratitude,
Jaydeep Chakraborty
CEO, Calcutta Rescue

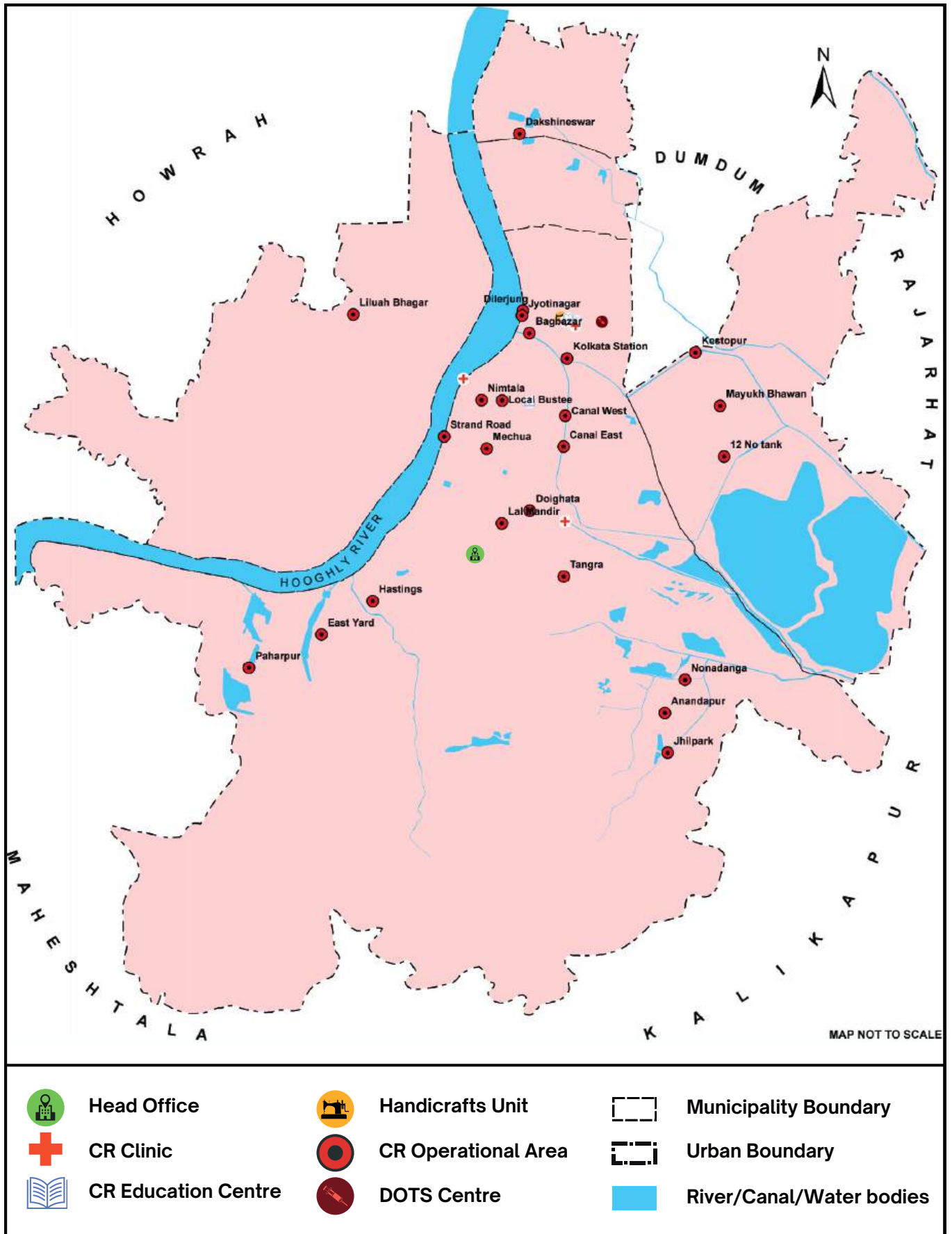


Despite challenges, our commitment to helping those on the margins has brought transformative change. Your support makes this possible.

OUR JOURNEY TILL NOW



OUR IMPACT-OPERATIONAL AREA





1,262,127

Total beneficiaries reached

3710

Students Reached

50

Slums reached



Supporting the most disadvantaged communities.

Calcutta Rescue's (CR) health programme aims to help the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in Kolkata and rural West Bengal access essential medical treatment. CR currently operates four fixed clinics and two mobile clinics, providing care for common ailments and specialised treatment for HIV, TB, and Leprosy. People from across the state, including remote areas like Jharkhand and the Sunderbans, visit these clinics. We also have an Outreach team that follows preventive measures.

4 Fixed Clinics



2 Mobile Clinics



HEALTHCARE

Essential healthcare for those in need.
Fostering wellness and improving the lives of those in need.



3517

**Clinics
Registered patients**

Calcutta Rescue operates four fixed clinics in Kolkata.

Talapark Clinic

is our largest clinic located in North Kolkata.

Nimtala Clinic

specialises in wound care.

Urban DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment Short-course)

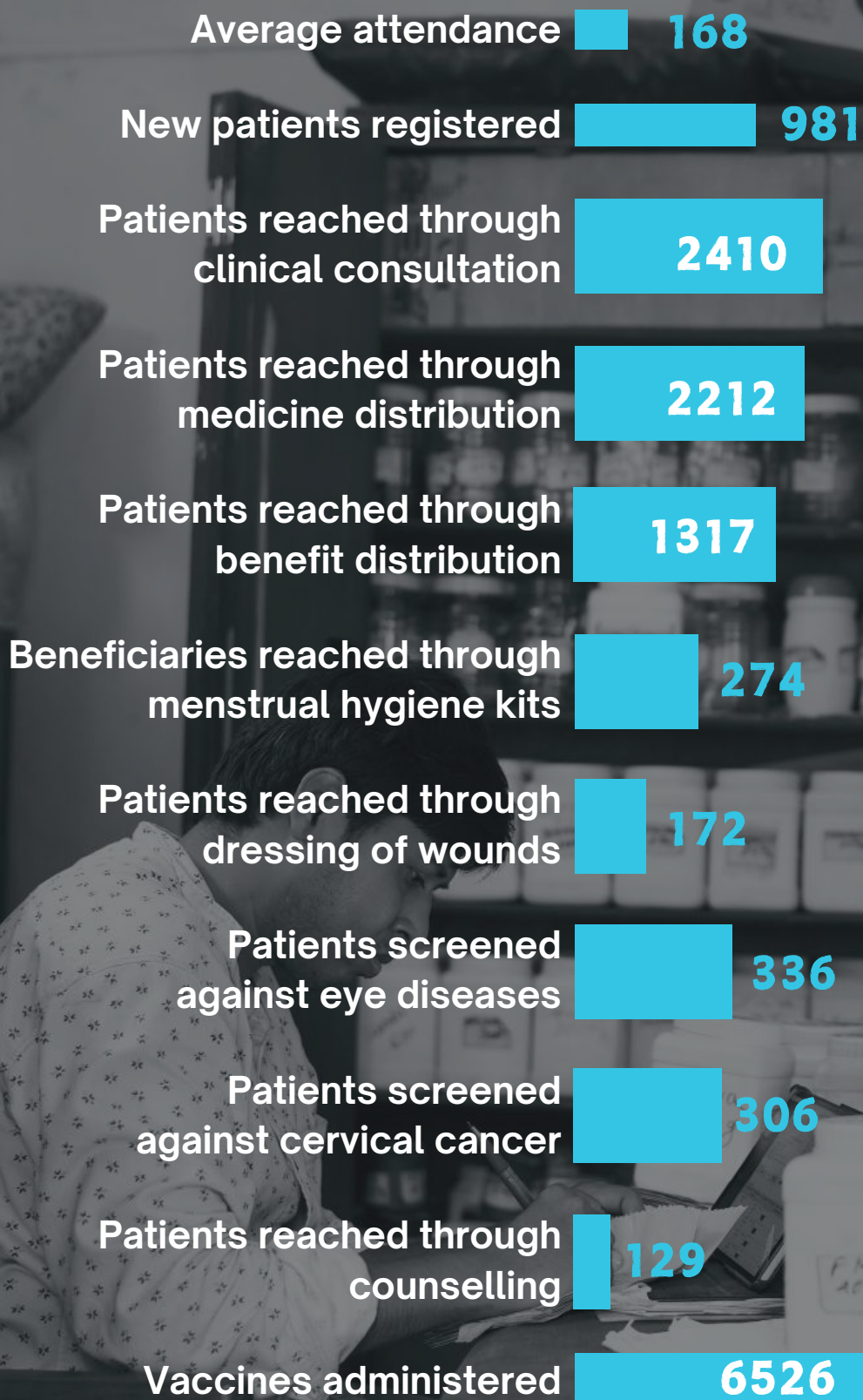
is CR's TB clinic.

In 2022, the Tangra slum area received a new fixed clinic



HOPE AMIDST DESPAIR. RISHAV'S JOURNEY

In the Nimtala slum, 5-year-old Rishav lost an arm and a leg when a train passed by as he slept on the tracks. His family, reliant on his father's earnings, struggled with the aftermath. A neighbour helped get Rishav to a government hospital for surgery, but treatment costs were daunting. Calcutta Rescue's Nimtala clinic became their lifeline, providing medical attention and nutrition over two years. Rishav received a prosthetic leg and will soon get a prosthetic arm. Now 7, Rishav is a vibrant boy who enjoys drawing and playing carrom with friends.



INNOVATIVE WOUND HEALING PROCESS

Calcutta Rescue introduced advanced foam-based silicone dressings for better patient comfort and infection prevention. Proposed by Dr. Moona Banerjee, a long-term medical volunteer and supporter from the UK, said these dressings hydrate chronic wounds, making them easier to heal.

SPECIAL MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMME- 1000 DAYS CARE PROGRAMME

In collaboration with Fundación Colores De Calcuta, CR launched the 1000 Days Care program under its Mother and Child health initiative, providing comprehensive care from pregnancy until the child's second birthday.

INAUGURATION OF TOPSIA CLINIC

On December 15, Calcutta Rescue opened a Mother and Child Health clinic in Topsia, in collaboration with Friends of Calcutta. Operating twice a week, the clinic has a team of seven, including a doctor, pharmacist, and nurse. The outreach team also conducts occasional awareness sessions.

DOTS CLINIC YIELDED A REMARKABLE RESULT

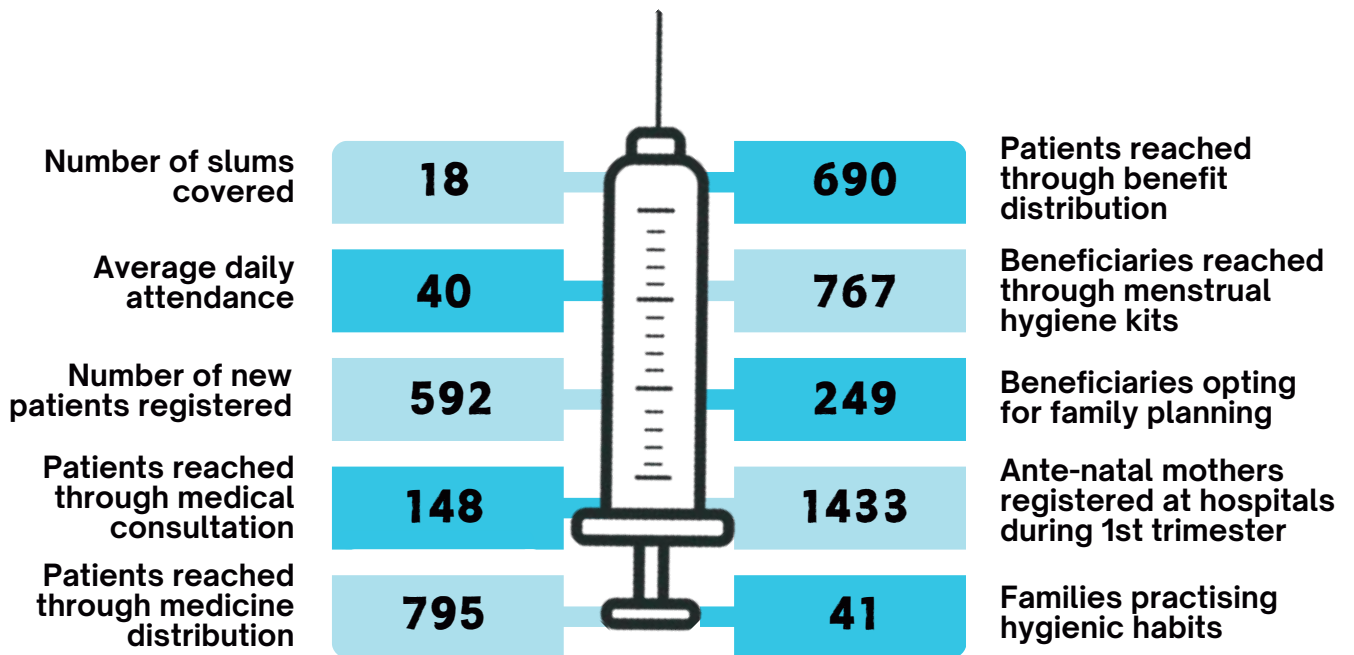
DOTS clinic cured 218 TB patients which is a record number.



1671

Street Medicine Registered patients

Calcutta Rescue’s street medicine program provides basic check-ups, vaccinations, and health education to marginalised street and slum populations. It monitors those with existing conditions, as well as expectant and new mothers. Community Health Workers (CHWs) play a key role in delivering care and raising awareness in the local language, addressing the unique health challenges these communities face.



A NEW STEP FOR SUJATA



53-year-old Sujata, living in Kolkata station slum with her family, faced a dire situation when a bike accident caused a severe foot injury. Initially treated at a government hospital, her wound worsened, leading to fears of amputation. Unable to afford private care, she sought help from Calcutta Rescue's Street Medicine team. With daily wound dressings and proper medication, Sujata's condition improved significantly over two months. Now, she can walk again, expressing heartfelt gratitude to the Calcutta Rescue team for their lifesaving support.

7613

Outreach Beneficiaries

Starting in the latter part of 2021, Calcutta Rescue's awareness and prevention of diseases approach is called Outreach. Two teams are deployed in 14 slum areas. Each team consists of 3 members who provide the slum dwellers with awareness sessions through interactive discussions. They also communicate directly with the designated Community Health Workers (CHWs) of the slum area and train them as well to serve their slum areas.

This year, the Outreach team collaborated with government social security schemes like Integrated Child Development Services and collaborated on sensitisation of mother and child health as per the government framework.



MAJOR METHODS OF ORGANIZED AWARENESS SESSIONS

Awareness for a Healthier Tomorrow

Number of training sessions

457

Number of slums

14

Number of participants

560

Average daily attendance

44

Number of change agents

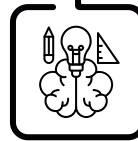
261



Storytelling



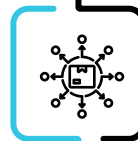
Open house discussion



Brain storming sessions



Peer discussion and group discussion



Development and distribution of IEC materials



Role play and street play

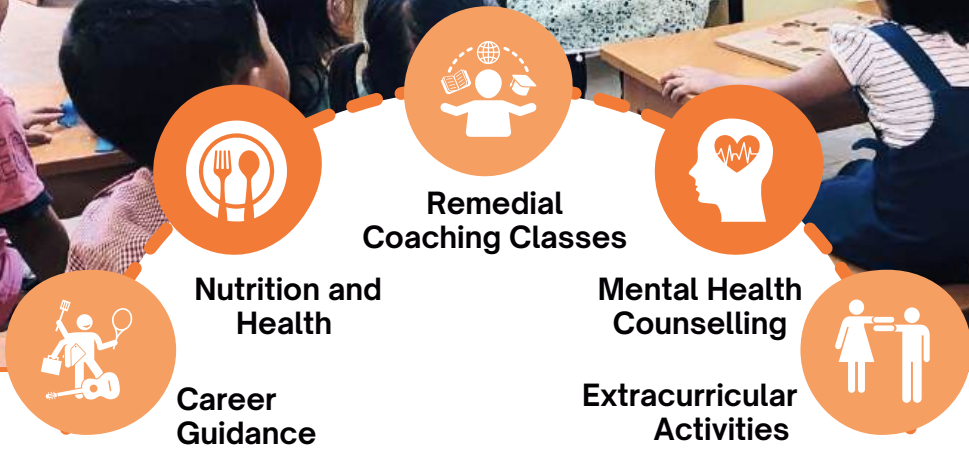
Starting the preschool at Calcutta Rescue, children progress to government schools by Class 1 while attending the education centres for two hours daily. Here, they receive nutritious meals, medical care, and mental health support, and engage in enriching activities such as music, art, and sports. From Class 8 onward, career guidance and vocational training further support their future career paths.

547  Students

2  Education Centers

EDUCATION

Bridging the education gap.
Transforming lives by educating
underprivileged children.



ACTIVITIES PROVIDED THROUGH EDUCATION PROJECTS



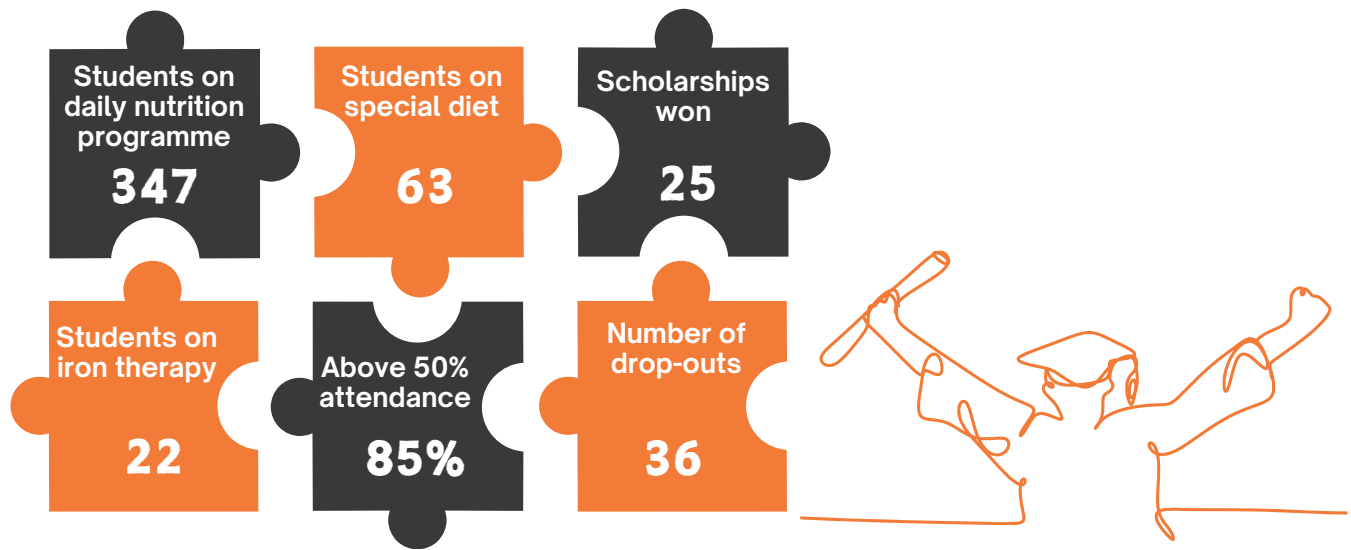
Calcutta Rescue's Education Projects were honoured with the "A School That Cares" award by The Telegraph Education Foundation.

CLASS 10 BOARD RESULTS

34 APPEARED 30 PASSED

CLASS 12 BOARD RESULTS

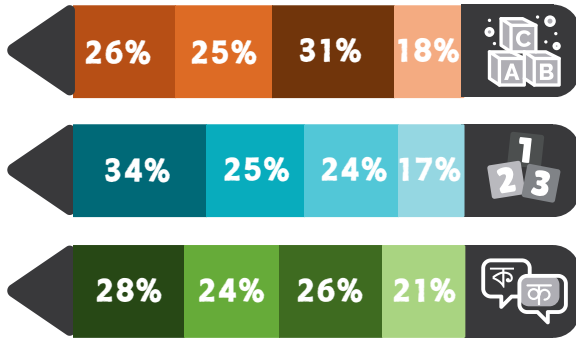
11 APPEARED 11 PASSED



ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Class V-X

>75% | 60%-74% | 40%-59% | <40%



OUR PRIDE

Khadija

Assistant photographer and photo editor



Kaikasha

Accountant Executive



Lucky

Accountant Executive



Being self-sufficient means the world to me. I can help my family, take care of my needs, and even think about my hobbies if I want.

-Kaikasha said with a radiant smile.

20-year-old Kaikasha values self-sufficiency, enabling her to support her family, meet her needs, and pursue her hobbies. Her journey began at Calcutta Rescue’s No. 10 education centre, where she studied for 15 years. Living nearby with her parents and two siblings, Kaikasha’s father sells fruits, and her brother had to leave school to work.

A dedicated student and talented dancer, Kaikasha pursued commerce after class 12 and sought a part-time job. With help from Calcutta Rescue’s vocational training manager, she completed an Advanced Diploma in Financial Accountancy. On July 13, 2023, she began working part-time at an accounting firm, earning 8000 rupees monthly to support her family.

Special Thanks

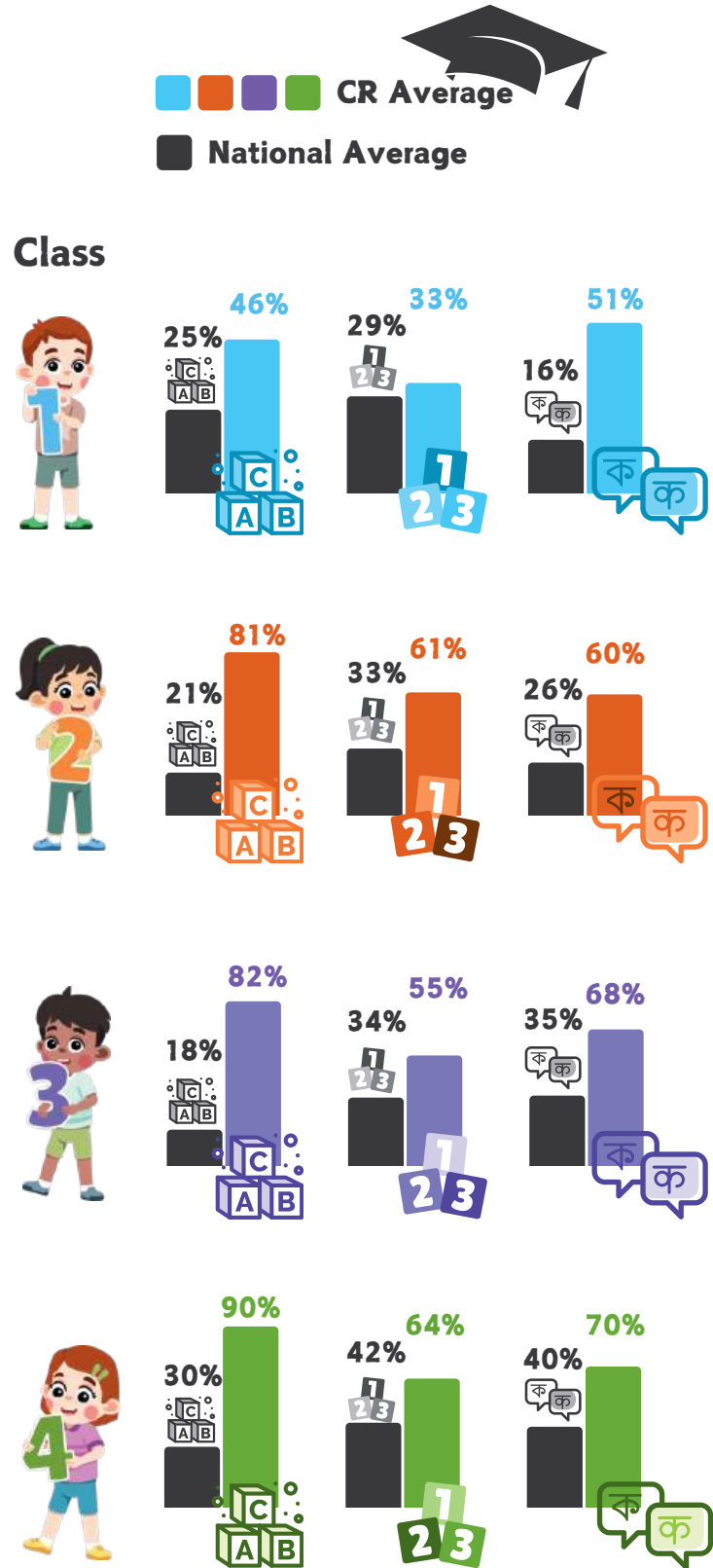
Paharpur Foundation has been with Calcutta Rescue since the inception of the new education building project. Their unwavering support even during the heaviest storm like the Covid pandemic kept us going and stood with us shoulder to shoulder fighting against all odds. To show our gratitude, we have made a "special thank you video" for the Paharpur Foundation. We thank you for all the support.

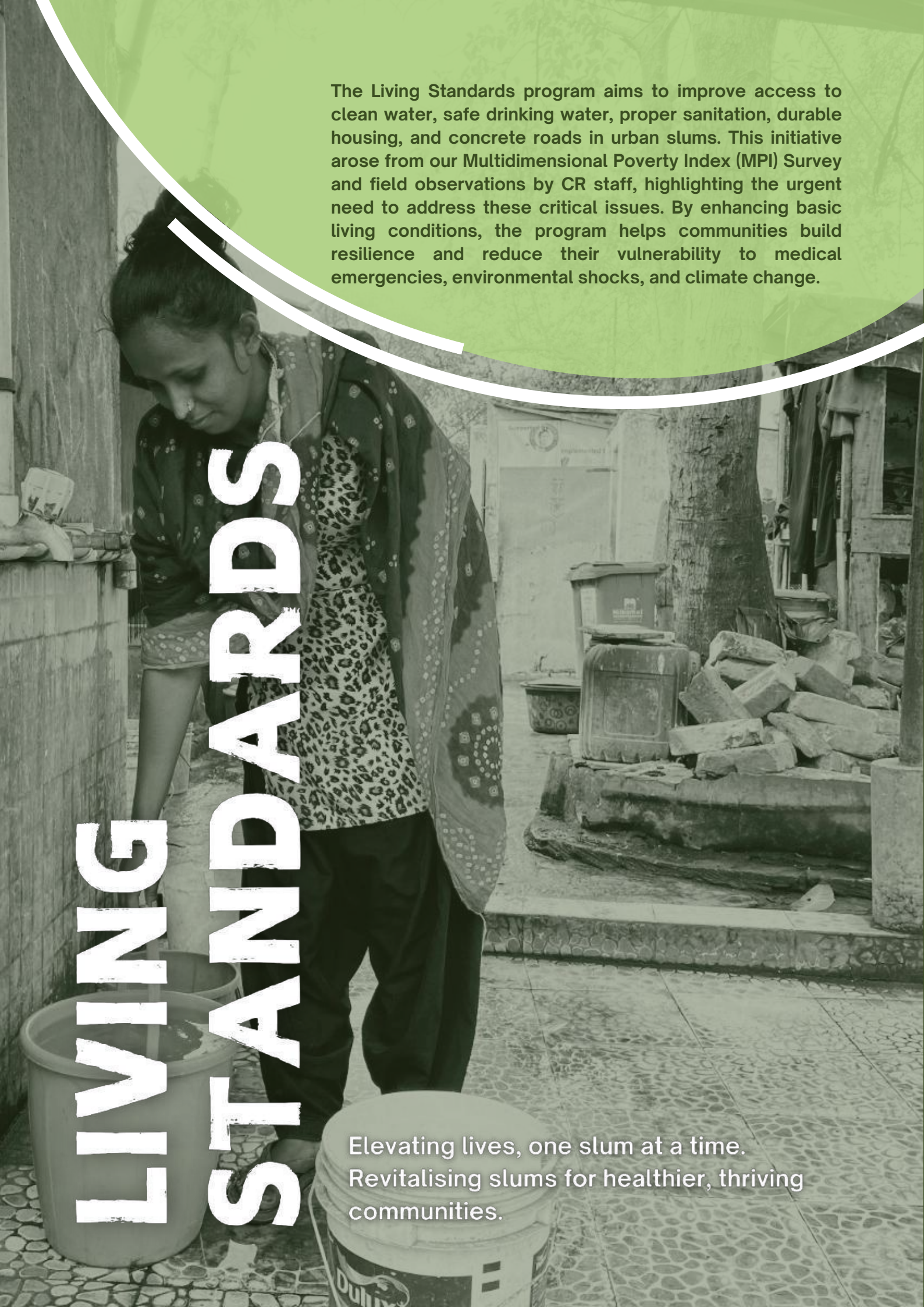
Special Initiatives: Photovoice

In November 2023, Dutch photographer Karijn Kakabeeke and Esther Sulkers, chair of the Calcutta Rescue Research Collaborative, visited Kolkata to train students and the outreach team. Twenty students learned photography skills and captured images reflecting gender equality, a major issue in India. They discussed their photos, identified common themes, and held an exhibition for staff, parents, and guests.

ASER TEST RESULTS

Students of Calcutta Rescue are always ahead of the National Annual Status ASER test result.

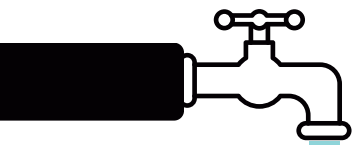


A black and white photograph of a woman in a patterned sari filling a bucket from a public water tap in an urban slum. The background shows a narrow alleyway with a tree, a trash bin, and a pile of bricks. A large green circular graphic is overlaid on the top right of the image.

The Living Standards program aims to improve access to clean water, safe drinking water, proper sanitation, durable housing, and concrete roads in urban slums. This initiative arose from our Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) Survey and field observations by CR staff, highlighting the urgent need to address these critical issues. By enhancing basic living conditions, the program helps communities build resilience and reduce their vulnerability to medical emergencies, environmental shocks, and climate change.

LIVING STANDARDS

Elevating lives, one slum at a time.
Revitalising slums for healthier, thriving communities.



MALDA ARSENIC PROJECT

	Villages covered	12
	No. of filters	12
	People accessing safe drinking water	13,000



In 2024, a year after major refurbishment at its arsenic filtration wells in Malda, the Calcutta Rescue team visited in March for a check-up.

PROJECT KIRAN

Waste Management and Vermicomposting Project.

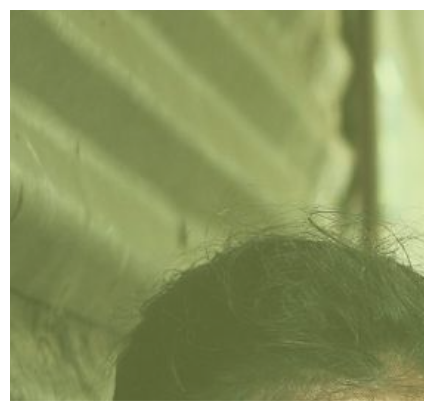
16857 kgs	of waste collected from the surroundings.
2000 kg	of compost produced.
30,000 rupees	(around 360 USD and 336 Euro) total revenue generated.
3	Community Members involved.

Our compost project is expanding

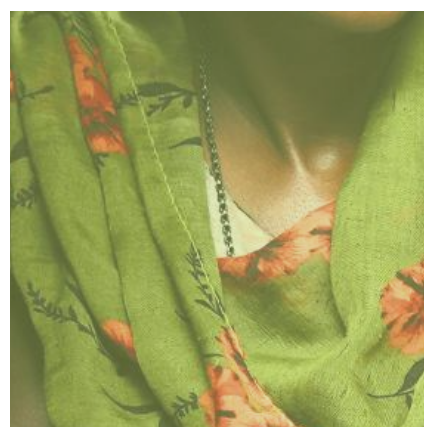
Project Kiran, supported by CESC Ltd, was initiated in 2022 to convert biodegradable waste into compost, has evolved significantly. It not only addresses environmental concerns but also provides supplementary income for slum dwellers who can sell the compost. Supported by CESC, this is one of Calcutta Rescue's special projects.

Initially, there were only two compost pits, but the recent increase in demand for compost has necessitated higher production. Consequently, the project is being expanded with six new pits. The construction began in late February.





Aside from the two workers, Project Kiran has made a Self Help Group uniting the women of the Dakshineswar slum area. Most of the women are domestic helpers. They sell the compost at their workplace and nursery shops and earn money.

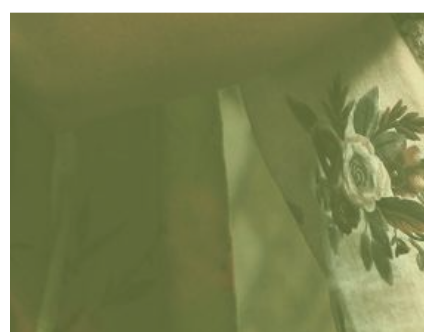


“



The compost project has given me a source of income, allowing me to support my children's education and provide an extra helping hand to my husband.

-Putul, domestic help



I regularly sell compost in the houses where I work. They use it for their gardens and they love it because of the fine quality. And I can make some money.

-Anjana, domestic help



I don't have a family but being a Self Help Group member feels like one. I sell the compost in the houses I work. It is an easy way to earn some extra money.

-Nila, domestic help

”

HANDICRAFTS

The Pamela Wynn Calcutta Rescue Handicrafts Centre was founded 31 years ago. The project provides training and employment to Calcutta Rescue's past patients who don't have any other way to earn money, students who dropped out of formal education, and domestic abuse survivors.

- No. of employees - 36
- Types of product - Hand embroidery cards, Woolen dolls, Keyrings, CR school dress, Notebooks, CR patients' clothes, Pillow covers, etc.

From adversity to artistry, these skillful hands shape hope and a new beginning.



RESTORATION OF LIVELIHOODS PROJECT

Started during the pandemic, the project has grown into one of the leading embroidery training institutes in north Kolkata for women from impoverished families. It is a 4 month-long course on tailoring and hand embroidery designed for slum dwellers.

What they learn-
Tailoring, cutting and hand embroidery.

Total no of participants-
125 till now

No of training conducted-
7 batches till now

COLLABORATION WITH SINGER INDIA

From November 2023, Calcutta Rescue Handicrafts collaborated with Singer India and is now affiliated with Singer India; the course structure also changed accordingly. The previous 4-month long course has now evolved into a 6-month certificate course and a one-year diploma course.



“

My life has taken a turn for the better since I came to Calcutta Rescue.

-Muskan



STARTED AS A STUDENT, THEN BECAME A TEACHER.

Muskan, 25, from Barrackpore, struggled with low-paying jobs while supporting her sick father and homemaker mother. In 2022, she joined Calcutta Rescue's handicrafts training program, where her dedication to learning embroidery impressed the team.

After completing her training, she received a sewing machine and began earning through local orders. Her skills eventually led her to become a trainer in the Restoration of Livelihoods project, allowing her to support her family.

RESEARCH

Over the past five years, Calcutta Rescue (CR) has actively expanded its research activity. CR has developed an institutional research strategy which focuses on three core research areas:



Research on the multidimensional nature of poverty;



Research on nutrition especially in pregnant and lactating women and young children;



Research on factors related to the prevention of diseases and the promotion of (mental) health.

CR research is coordinated by a task force of former long-term volunteers with research expertise, CEO Jaydeep Chakraborty, and local staff. This group established a structure to ensure quality control and accountability in CR's research.

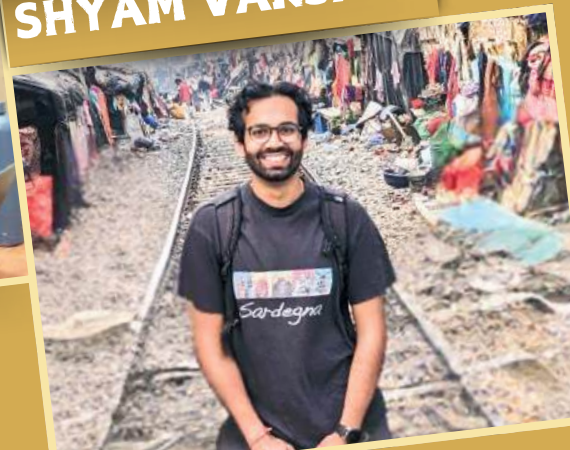
In the past financial year, two major research projects were conducted: 1. a 5-year follow-up of the 2019 multidimensional poverty (MPI) study and 2. an impact evaluation of the adolescent gender equality program in CR schools.

Volunteer Researcher

RYAN CADMAN



SHYAM VARSANI





For the 2024 MPI Project, we conducted 1,000+ interviews across 22 slums from January to April.



Ryan Cadman and Shyam Varsani, two volunteer researchers headed the survey. The research has been guided by Dr Suman Seth and the results have been analysed by researcher Subharthi Pradhan.



21 Interns

were trained to perform these interviews in Kolkata's challenging slum conditions. The data shows significant progress, especially in healthcare areas like family planning, antenatal vaccine completion, and health education.



The Gender Equality Study

showed significant improvement in attitudes towards gender norms, tolerance of violence, and school absence due to chores among adolescents in the program. These positive changes, seen over just 18 months, suggest CR's multi-component gender equality program, which addresses gender issues at various social levels, is an effective approach.



HR & ADMINISTRATION

Calcutta Rescue's HR team works on recruiting, onboarding, training, and administering employee benefits.

Employee Metrics



TRAINING OF TRAINERS FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS PROGRAMME

Calcutta Rescue identified adolescent girls in six slums as a key focus due to rising issues. In response, they launched a project addressing health, menstrual awareness, cyber safety, nutrition, and teenage pregnancy prevention. The SM and outreach teams organized a three-day Training of Trainers (TOT) for 21 staff, using role-playing for effective delivery. Six Bengali modules were developed, field-tested, and standardized for consistent messaging in all sessions. CR also plans to develop an adolescent policy.

PWC SDC VOLUNTEERS ARRANGED STAFF TRAINING

PricewaterhouseCoopers Service Delivery Centre (PwC SDC) volunteers visited and provided Microsoft Excel and PowerPoint training to the Calcutta Rescue staff.



THE NEW EDUCATION PROJECT PAATHSHAALA IS NOW COMPLETE

Calcutta Rescue's long-standing dream is finally achieved as the new education project building at 20 Iswar Mill Lane is completely done and draped in colours. Without the generous support from all the support groups, the Paharpur Foundation, Ms Shamita Ray and the Verdina Foundation this would not have been possible.

PEER- LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP AND GENDER AWARENESS WORKSHOP

In collaboration with Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives, Calcutta Rescue empowered adolescent girls with life skills to become change agents in their slums. Four girls from CR's education and health projects attended a four-day Peer Leadership Workshop, learning communication, human rights, and problem-solving through interactive activities. A three-day workshop by the Azim Premji Foundation explored gender, sexuality, power, and patriarchy through discussions, film screenings, and group activities, challenging traditional perspectives on gender and societal norms.

CERTIFICATION FOR TEACHERS

The Helga Todd Teacher's Education Foundation, an educational charity based in the UK, was established in 2008 by Ram Todd, an Indian philanthropist, in memory of his late wife, Helga. Over the past two years, the foundation has been actively involved in providing specialized training modules to enhance the skills of Calcutta Rescue teachers. Upon completing the training courses, Mr. Ben Taubman, who has been closely engaged with the Calcutta Rescue Education Project, visited the teachers to present them with special certificates.

VOICES OF DEDICATION: REFLECTIONS FROM OUR TEAM

DR DURGADAS KUNDU

Doctor | Retired | 22.06.2015- 31.01.2024

It has been an incredible journey at Calcutta Rescue, where every day brought the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of those who needed it the most. Over the years, I've witnessed the resilience of our patients and the unwavering dedication of our team. As I retire, I carry with me countless memories of hope, healing, and the spirit of service that will stay with me forever.



RAJ NARAYAN DUTTA

Senior Accountant | Currently In Service | 1.10.2002-Present

Working at Calcutta Rescue for all these years has been both rewarding and humbling. From my first day as a junior accountant to becoming a senior accountant, I've been proud to see the difference we make in the lives of those we serve. Every day is a reminder of how impactful our work is, and I'm grateful to be part of this mission.



PAYEL SAHA PODDER

Fundraising Officer for Support Groups
New Joinee | 10.04.2023

Since joining Calcutta Rescue, I've been amazed by the dedication and passion of the team. It's inspiring to work alongside people who genuinely care about transforming lives. I'm proud to be part of an organisation that constantly strives to uplift the most vulnerable, and I look forward to continuing this journey.

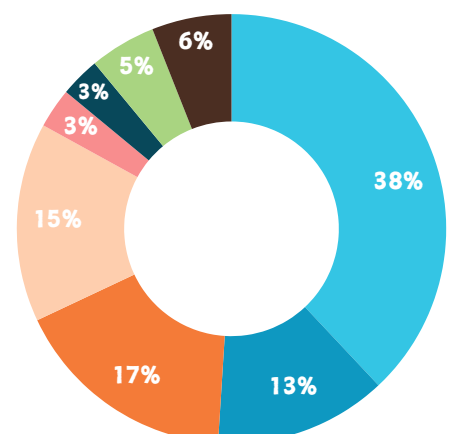
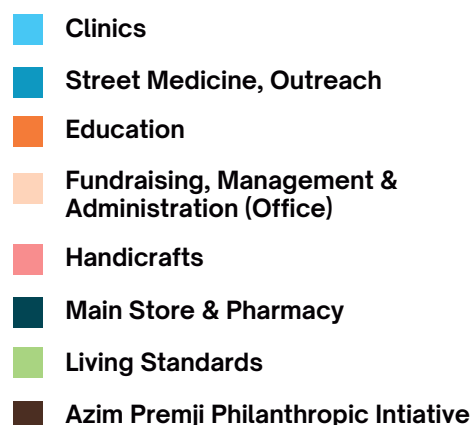


FINANCIALS

INCOME - EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

INCOME	2023-2024		2022-2023	
	INR	% of Total	INR	% of Total
Donations and Grants				
Local	3,18,18,858	24.07%	3,24,78,526	22.61%
International-SG and Karuna Shechen	7,22,09,559	54.64%	7,96,18,355	55.42%
International (sourced locally)	1,96,53,851	14.87%	2,45,20,334	17.07%
Earned/Self-Generated Income				
Sale of Handicrafts	6,75,448	0.51%	5,29,872	0.37%
Interest including interest on corpus fund	76,57,259	5.79%	63,66,338	4.43%
Other Income	1,58,185	0.12%	1,39,673	0.10%
Total Income	13,21,73,160		14,36,53,098	
EXPENDITURE				
Programme	10,99,59,160	85%	9,87,51,860	86%
Fund Raising	16,71,973	1%	10,93,891	1%
Management Administration(Office)	1,77,35,725	14%	1,54,29,934	13%
Total Expenditure	12,93,66,858		11,52,75,685	
SURPLUS	28,06,302		2,83,77,413	

PROGRAM WISE EXPENSES 2023-2024



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Thanks to all individuals, trust funds and corporates who have donated via our Support Groups. You are too numerous to mention!

SUPPORT GROUPS

- Calcutta Rescue Fund, UK
- Calcutta Espoir France
- Fondation Calcutta Espoir
- Calcutta Rescue Netherlands
- Calcutta Rescue Deutschland
- Calcutta Rescue USA - World Health and Education Network (WHEN)
- Stiftung Calcutta Rescue
- Calcutta Rescue Ontario, Canada

INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

- Heritage River Journeys Pvt. Ltd.
- Inner Wheel Club of Calcutta South City
- CESC Ltd.
- PricewaterhouseCoopers Service Delivery Center
- Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives
- Manav Jagriti Foundation
- Medhavhi Foundation
- Mission of Mercy Foundation
- Online Giving Foundation
- Fundación Colores De Calcuta
- Paharpur Foundation
- Saathire Social Impact Solutions Private Limited
- UK Online Giving Foundation
- Helga Todd Teacher's Education Foundation
- Cognizant Foundation
- American Friends
- Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd.
- Inner Wheel Club
- Shubhamastu
- Sony India Private Limited
- Bhagwanti Memorial Foundation
- The Eden Court No. 16
- The Satsang Foundation
- Indian Schools Alumni Friends
- Give Foundation
- Associazione Skychildren Onlus
- Karuna Shechen
- Direct Relief
- Solidar' India
- Museum Rietberg
- Bright Funds
- Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)
- Global Giving
- The Time and Talents Club

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

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- Aditi Mukherjee
- Akansha Goel
- Amanda Gomes
- Amar KS
- Amitabh Ray
- Amitava Debroy
- Amitava Sen
- Amitkas
- Amit Shaw
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- Antara
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- Aseshsa
- Avik Datta
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- Rumpa
- Sajal
- Samarendra Dhaga
- Sandeep Farias
- Sanghamitra Ghosh
- Sanjay Roy
- Sanjay Shaw
- Sanjukta Sanyal
- Sashi Sekar Ghosal
- Shashi Gupt
- Sheila Choudhuri
- Wg. Cdr. Shomir Choudhuri
- Shyantee Roy
- Simerleen Singh
- Snehasish Bhowmick
- Snigdha Kemkar
- Snigdha Roy
- Somdatta Ghosh
- Somsubhra Barori
- Soumya Saksham Purwar
- Sree Lakshmi Kokkerapalli
- Srijaneega
- Sudhir
- Sugata
- Suhasini Singh
- Sukrit Bose
- Suman
- Sunil Kumar Ghosh
- Suparna Deb
- Sushmita Palit
- Sweta Kumari
- Tapas Kumar Marik
- Tapendu Basu
- Tatineni Prem Kumar
- Vikash Agarwal
- Vinitha
- Vipin Sharma
- Yasmeen Iquabal



I slept and dreamt that **life was joy**. I awoke and saw that **life was service**. I acted and behold, **service was joy**.



-Rabindranath Tagore



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