

Digital advancements and technology have permeated every aspect of our living world today. In the field of education, it has transformed the execution of teaching-learning activities, assessment of learning, and evaluation of the growth elements of learners and educators. The learning process has considerably reformed with the emerging technology and tools that drive change.

This quarter we were very happy to collaborate with Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) to implement the 'Umang-BMC Balwadi Digitization Programme' in 900 Balwadis in the Mumbai region. This major leap taken by BMC towards digitization of BMC-run schools will revolutionize the way attendance, evaluation, and progress records of Balwadi children are maintained and monitored in BMC schools, enabling the BMC to ensure the quality of each Balwadi center.



The inaugural function of the Umang Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation Balwadi Teacher App was held on 21st August 2023, at the BMC office, heralding the beginning of the 'Umang Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation Balwadi Digitization Programme 2023-2026'.

This remarkable initiative was supported by the Education Officer of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, Mr. Rajesh Kankal, and the inaugural event was held in the presence of Ms. Mamta Rao, the Deputy Education Officer of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, Ms. Asha More, the Deputy Education Officer of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, Ms. Rekha Koita, Co-Founder of Koita Foundation, Neha Vasa, Co-Founder of Designscape, Ms. Drishti Trivedi, Manager - Koita Foundation, Mr. Pramod Nigudkar,

Chief Executive officer of Vipla Foundation, and Ms. Sapna Menon, Director of Early Intervention at Vipla Foundation.

Balwadi teachers of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation and the Programme Mentor team of Vipla Foundation were also present for this ceremony.

Over the next three years, we would support the 'Umang BMC Balwadi Digitization Programme' by training the Balwadi teachers and ensuring its implementation in all 900 schools, thereby strengthening the foundational years of the Balwadi children by using the digitized learning and assessment tools. The information as well as usage of the Umaang app will greatly enhance the quality of Balwadi activities. The first phase of the training program for 834 Balwadi teachers was conducted to give teachers hands-on experience with the Umang BMC Balwadi app.

Vipla Foundation continuously strives to achieve the milestones of holistic development of preschool children and this collaboration is once again a step in that direction.

Other Highlights

Early Years Intervention

The teacher training program for the new academic year was organised for 16 Balwadi teachers at Rahe Girls High School, Ahmedabad, under the Teacher Mentorship Program. The first awareness session under the pilot Mother-Child Interaction Program was conducted for mothers of 0-3-year-old children in 21 community Balwadis in Mumbai and 34 Anganwadis in Vikramgad. The session included information on providing a conducive home learning environment for a child's growth and development. Anganwadi teacher training programs were held in 34 Anganwadis in Vikramgad and 50 in Navi Mumbai for the new academic year 2023-24.



Education

Diagnostic tests were conducted across all the schools to understand the competencies and learning levels of the students. Parent-teacher meetings were also held to enable parents understand the goals and methods of the program and to engage them in their child's performance / progress. Relevant teaching learning materials were prepared for all the classes. Students in Baddhi, Goa, and Gujarat were given story books to inculcate the habit of reading.



Special Care Centre

An awareness program was organized for the parents about the government schemes and facilities available for special children. PSI Ruby Abraham visited the school and conducted a session on safety and the facilities available to women / girls like the Nirbhaya Pathak and the emergency numbers they can dial in case of risks. A workshop was organized for the children on creativity, drama, and writing skills. Students also began training for basketball at Ascend International School and sessions on Cybercrime were organized for students.



Dhvani

The Occupational Therapy room was inaugurated by MD and CEO of SBI CAPS, Mr. Rajay Kumar Sinha. The newborn hearing screening was held at Matoshree Ramabai Ambedkar Maternity Home, Chembur, and Deonar Maternity Home. Nutrition Awareness camps were conducted in collaboration with SNDT college to create awareness among the participants about the importance of nutrition in pregnancy and lactation women and their children. A Mental Health workshop was also organized for parents which was conducted by Ms. Meeti from Empower.



Women Empowerment

Training of Police Investigators to ensure Effective Criminal Justice Response to Human Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation was conducted in July'23 at the Police Bhavan, Commissioner of Police Office, Nagpur City. The training sessions covered a broad spectrum of critical topics and Dr. P.M. Nair, a retired IPS officer delivered a thought-provoking session on emerging trends in trafficking and proposed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) specifically tailored to handle technology-based evidence and manage crime scenes effectively. A workshop on the Facilitation of Compensation under the Manodhairya scheme was also conducted in Nagpur in September'23. This workshop not only fostered a sense of collaboration among stakeholders but also reinforced their commitment to ensuring that the Manodhairya Scheme continues to serve as a vital lifeline for those in need.



Delhi

Online sessions were conducted for children on topics like Natural Resources, Humility, Social Media, Culture and Traditions of the states from South India, the G20 Summit, Grandparents Day, etc. Parent-teacher meetings were held during the quarter to engage parents in the progress of their children and ensure their regularity in attending classes.



Programmatic Reach



Early Years Intervention

1,211
Children enrolled

893
Teachers trained



Education

2,401
Students enrolled in the Patang Remedial Education Program

600
Storybooks donated in 15 schools across Baddi, Goa, and Gujarat



Special Care Centre

113
Children enrolled in Hearing Impaired Section

77
Children enrolled in Intellectual Disability Section



Dhvani

03
Cochlear implant surgery

250
Children screened



Women Empowerment

52
Participants attended the workshop on the Facilitation of compensation under the Manodhariya compensation scheme

391
Women enrolled in Skilling