

# Changemakers' Bulletin \*

February 2025



### Reflections from the Chief Visionary

### Dear Friends, Supporters, and Changemakers,

As we embark on another transformative journey with Save the Child Foundation, I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude for your continued commitment and support. Your unwavering belief in our mission enables us to reach and uplift vulnerable children across the world, breaking cycles of poverty, trafficking, and exploitation.

Together, we have made incredible strides in providing education, health, and safety to children who need it the most. But there is still much work to be done. As we reflect on the progress we've achieved, it is clear that none of this would be possible without the generosity and compassion of each of you —our donors, volunteers, and advocates.

This year, we have witnessed lives transformed through our programs, campaigns, and collaborations. Your contributions have allowed us to create safer spaces, provide critical resources, and empower the next generation of leaders. The impact of your support is immeasurable, and I am so proud of the community we continue to build.

On behalf of the entire Save the Child Foundation team, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Together, we are not just making a difference; we are changing the world.

Your continued partnership is key to ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive, no matter their circumstances.

Ravi Kantamsette

### Highlights!

Ravi's India Visit: A Journey of Loss, Reflection, and Impact

Sheetal's Impact with Art-Based Therapy Sessions

Expanding SEL & Art of Dialogue in Uganda

Project Muskaan: Empowering Survivors, Restoring Lives

Project Baala Recognized in Forbes India 30 Under 30!



#### Ravi's India Visit: A Journey of Loss, Reflection, and Impact

In January 2025, after the loss of his father, Ravi returned to India from abroad with a heavy heart. However, amidst his personal grief, his journey took an unexpected turn. Rather than solely mourning his loss, he found renewed purpose in addressing the challenges faced by marginalized communities. Motivated by a deep commitment to uplifting rural and tribal populations—particularly in areas such as education, clean water, sanitation, and gender equality—Ravi's visit evolved into a mission of hope. As he connected with individuals whose lives had been shaped by poverty and hardship, he saw an opportunity not only to raise awareness but also to help devise sustainable solutions that empower these communities to create lasting change.



#### Hope and Healing at Care and Love

When Ravi visited Care and Love, he expected to offer support—but instead, he found himself deeply transformed. He met children who had endured immense hardship, yet their smiles and resilience shone through the pain.

As he listened to their stories, he realized that beyond basic needs, what truly mattered was love, care, and education—the keys to breaking the cycle of struggle. The visit was not just an eye-opener; it was a call to action.

Ravi left with a renewed purpose—to not just witness change, but to be part of it.



#### A Promise to Araku's Tribal Communities

Ravi's journey through Araku, Vizianagaram, and Srikakulam opened his eyes to the harsh realities faced by tribal communities scarcity, water lack of education, and gender inequality.

In Sankuparthi Hamlet, he connected with local leaders, realizing the urgent need for action. Partnering with Oohamahanthi and Sunanda Guruzu. he committed tackling to water, sanitation, education, and women's empowerment. The road ahead was long, but his resolve was clear-these communities would no longer be forgotten.



#### Bringing Water, Bringing Change

In Gaalipadu Hamlet, water scarcity wasn't just a challenge—it was the root of malnutrition, poor health, and stalled progress. Recognizing this, efforts to secure clean water access became a top priority.

This visit marked a turning point, sparking immediate action to bring sustainable solutions water to Gaalipadu and beyond. Community members and local leaders united to develop long-term solutions, giving families hope for а healthier, brighter future.





#### A Marketplace for Indigenous Produce

Ravi's visit to tribal hamlets led him to create a sustainable marketplace for indigenous produce. By cutting out the "middlemen," the aim was to boost farmers' profits and directly connect them to markets. This approach not improved financial only stability for local farmers but helped address also malnutrition in underprivileged regions. Through fair trade and economic empowerment, the model promoted long-term sustainability for these communities.



#### Breaking Barriers: Empowering Women

powerful In а act of empowerment, Ganga and Lakshmi from the hamlets spoke out about their needs, breaking social barriers. Ravi and Ooha responded by creating a business plan to help them build a sustainable livelihood.

As a symbol of support, Ravi provided a Rs. 500 sign-on bonus, demonstrating his commitment to women's empowerment. With this gesture, he hoped Ganga and Lakshmi would inspire other women to speak up and take control of their futures.



#### Menstrual Hygiene in Hamlets

During their visit, Ooha took the opportunity to discuss the importance of menstrual hygiene and distribute PARI Pads, ensuring better sanitation in the hamlets. As Ooha shared, "A little love for yourself is all you need, and you don't need a Valentine's Day for that." Their efforts are part of a larger mission to nurture indigenous families and build a more inclusive community, one that cares for and uplifts its people with the PARI effect.

#### From Scholars to Leaders: A Heartwarming Story from Sindhupalchowk

At Save the Child Foundation, we believe in nurturing future leaders, and this year, we witnessed a beautiful example of growth and giving back in Sindhupalchowk, Nepal. Two of our senior scholars, who once started as shy students, have now blossomed into confident college scholars.

These inspiring young leaders returned to their community to lead the distribution of school supplies to younger students.







#### Project Muskaan: Empowering Survivors, Restoring Lives

This year, our vision revolves around Muskaan, an 7 -yearold whose spirit represents the future we are building. At the heart of Project Muskaan are the core values of girl child safety and mental health. Led by Ooha, this initiative seeks to provide more than just what Muskaan asks for; it's about giving her everything she deserves for a secure, empowered future.

Though her needs may seem simple, our mission is clear to ensure that every girl child is protected and nurtured, with the care and support only a parent can provide.

Project Muskaan is a compassionate initiative by Save the Child Foundation dedicated to supporting survivors of sexual abuse and their families. The project addresses their immediate recovery and long-term stability by providing comprehensive assistance that meets their physical, emotional, and social needs.

Our Goals:

- *Holistic Recovery*: Facilitating psychological support, medical care, and therapeutic services.
- *Educational Continuity*: Ensuring survivors can continue their education without disruption.
- Legal Empowerment: Providing survivors with legal aid to seek justice.
- Safe Living Spaces: Offering secure housing for survivors and their families.
- *Nutritional Support:* Addressing basic needs through access to nutritious food.

#### Impact:

Project Muskaan aims to break the cycle of trauma by fostering emotional healing, enabling survivors to rebuild their lives with dignity, and promoting their social acceptance. This initiative envisions a future where survivors can reclaim their lives, empowered and resilient.





## Scan the QR code to make a difference today! Together, we can empower survivors to reclaim their future.



#### A Special Christmas Welcome: Muskaan's Birthday Celebration:

This Christmas, we're thrilled to welcome Muskaan into the Save the Child Foundation family! Celebrating her birthday, we're reminded of the joy and hope each child brings. Muskaan's bright spirit represents the love and opportunities every child deserves, and we're excited to be part of her journey.

With your support, we can ensure Muskaan and many others experience the best childhood possible. Here's to a future full of joy, hope, and love for all the children in our family!





#### Project Baala Recognized in Forbes India 30 Under 30!

A proud moment for the social impact space—Project Baala has been featured in Forbes India 30 Under 30 in the NGO and Social Entrepreneurship category! With over one million girls impacted, their mission goes beyond numbers, bringing happiness and dignity to young lives.

Founded by Soumya Dabriwal and Aaradhana Rai, Project Baala has been revolutionizing menstrual health with sustainable solutions and awareness programs. As a proud partner of Save the Child Foundation, we celebrate their achievement and continued impact. Congratulations to the Baala team!



#### RUI Internship Program: Empowering Youth to Lead Change

For the first time, we are launching the RUI Internship Program, a groundbreaking initiative designed to equip young leaders from the hamlets we serve with the skills and opportunities to transform their communities. Selected interns will undergo specialized training in Vizag, gaining hands-on experience before stepping into full-time roles—working directly from their homes and villages.

By investing in local youth, we are ensuring that change comes from within, driven by those who deeply understand the challenges their communities face.





Expanding SEL & Art of Dialogue in Uganda

The Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) initiaive and Art of Dialogue (AoD) programs in Masaka, Uganda, have expanded from 30 to 35 children, providing a safe space for self-expression and healing. These sessions help kids develop emotional awareness, communication skills, and resilience to navigate daily challenges. Through storytelling and open discussions, children process their experiences in a supportive environment.



## Supporting Education at Walkfree Foundation

Stationery kits, including notebooks, pens, pencils, and other essential supplies, were distributed to 36 children from both primary and secondary schools at Walkfree Foundation, Masaka, Uganda. This initiative aimed to equip students with the necessary tools for a productive learning experience.

In addition to providing school supplies, the first-term school fees for all 36 children were fully covered.



Sheetal's Impact with Art-Based Therapy Sessions

Sheetal Jain, a certified Art-Based Therapist and Music Therapy graduate, has transformed the lives of 500+ individuals through her 'Canvas of Healing' sessions. Growing up in Kamathipura, Mumbai's red-light district, she turned her struggles into a mission to heal others.

Sheetal uses art to foster resilience and empowerment, transforming marginalized communities through creative expression.