



Pocketful of Sunshine

Annual Report 2021-2022



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A prevention-based approach that leads to
a safe, healthy and happy childhood for children at risk.

Vision

A safe society for children to enjoy childhood and get opportunities to grow up to become responsible humans.

Mission

To prevent child abuse and provide a child-friendly environment for at-risk children, by establishing Daycare Centers for the children of daily wagers, along with working with children in different unprotected situations.

Objective

To prevent, protect, advocate and ensure human rights with a focus on the prevention of child rights abuse.

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Letter to Our Patrons

Yet another challenging but satisfying year is over. The biggest challenge that lies before the Pocketful of Sunshine team, is to find sustainable avenues for funding and organizational resources. The organization so far has sustained through individual donations. In 2021-22 as the health situation in the city improved, we were able to directly engage and work with at-risk children in Delhi. Children and their parents welcomed the reopening as the daycares became fully functional once again.

When PFO Sunshine began in 2019, its primary responsibility was towards the children that it took under its care. An unexpected outcome of providing a safe and protected environment to children, was the direct economic empowerment of their mothers. The Sunshine daycares have given an opportunity to mothers to work for longer and more flexible hours without worrying about the safety and wellbeing of their children.

During 2021-22 we expanded from one daycare to three fully managed daycares in South East Delhi. While this growth is significant, the need for more of these daycares is more urgent than ever. The next big task in front of us is to set up a different daycare section and age-appropriate curriculum for boys over 12 years of age. As boys over 12 need to be accommodated in a separate space from younger toddlers, to take better care of their growing needs.

The demand for daycares is very pressing in *basties*. As noticed in the Jogabai Daycare that began with a capacity of 25, and is now taking care of over 50 children. In the past year, daycare facilities including the number of staff, rooming space and other resources have been doubled. In Okhla Vihar Daycare more than 40 children have been enrolled so far but many others remain on the wait list until the center is relocated to a bigger space.

As we complete 3 years this September 2022, we look forward to becoming eligible for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Grant-In-Aid to be able to reach out to more children and working mothers. Immense gratitude to all the friends, sponsors, and patrons of Pocketful of Sunshine for making this project not just possible, but also sustainable.

A safe and healthy year ahead to all.
Tasneema Zaidi

Introduction

Who We Are

PFO Sunshine was established in September 2019 in response to an alarming rise in child abuse cases, ranging from physical, sexual and emotional abuse to human trafficking and substance abuse in children.

The primary concern of every working mother is to leave her child in safe hands at a safe place while she goes out to work. However migrant workers within the domestic, construction, industrial sectors and daily wagers often have to leave their children unprotected in high density residential quarters or on the streets due to lack of a support system in place.

Understanding the need to fill this crucial gap in care taking, the 'Sunshine' group works for the prevention of child abuse and to ensure a safe and happy childhood for the children of daily wagers, by providing clean and accessible Daycare facilities.

The focus of PFO Sunshine is on the prevention of child abuse, so that the need for rehabilitation after abuse/harm has taken place is reduced.

Governing Body Members

President | Ritu Sinha

Visiting Professor of Sociology,
Ambedkar University

Founder & Director | Tasneema Zaidi

Child Rights Campaigner,
Former member of Child Welfare Committee

Co-Founder | Azra Naqvi

Fiction writer & Poet,
Editor, 'Rekhta' Foundation

Co-Founder | Asma Zaidi

Family Psychologist, School Leader,
Teachers' trainer and Author

Advisor | Bharti Sharma

Honorary Secretary,
'Shakti Shalini'

Advisor | Vaidehi Subramani

Member 'Juvenile Justice Board',
South Delhi

Project 1

Parvarish Daycares

PFO Sunshine has established daycares for the children of daily wage and domestic workers in different localities of South East Delhi.

Objective: The objective of providing daycare facilities in *basties* is to prevent abuse of some of the most marginalized and vulnerable children, and ensure that they do not get pulled into harmful activities.

Daycare is a growing necessity for children and working mothers in urban areas. Although a large number of urban work force, especially women, are engaged in economic activities outside of their homes, childcare arrangements remain insufficient and extremely expensive. The need for childcare arrangements for children of daily wage earners and migrant workers is even greater.

Most of the families in slums and *basties* of Delhi have migrated from different parts of the country in search of jobs. These are mainly nuclear families and often lack extended family support to share childbearing responsibilities. As a result the children are left unattended during the day and suffer neglect and abuse.

PFO Sunshine has established *Parvarish* daycares to provide an alternative care during the day to the children of domestic workers, rickshaw pullers, construction workers and other daily wage earners. The daycares carry out a range of activities throughout the day, centered on children's emotional, mental, and intellectual development.

PFO Sunshine is experiencing resource constraints in *basties* as there is an ever growing need to include more children in its daycare programs. Additionally, separate setups and age appropriate curriculum have to be developed on an urgent basis for boys who are nearing 12 years of age.



In 2021, one of the collaborative organizations handed over the complete responsibility of its two daycare centers to PFO Sunshine. Since then PFO Sunshine is running three daycare centers in different parts of Southeast Delhi. *Parvarish* Daycares cater to children between the age group of 3 months to 12 years. Kids below 2 years usually stay for 2-3 hours and go back once their mothers return from work. Whereas older children stay until evening hours.

Out of school children above the age of 5 have been enrolled in regular schools and efforts are on to enroll all the below 5 years in local Anganwadis. Since Delhi Government Schools have separate shifts for boys and girls, they attend daycare accordingly.

Parvarish Daycares

Facilities Provided

The daycares are operational from 9 am to 5 pm, and managed by a team of well-trained staff. Children drop in after school hours and stay until evening. Many infants are also taken care of, and dropped-off at the daycare by the mothers as per their needs and work timings.

- Children up to 12 years of age are taken care of in the daycare
- Fresh cooked food, milk & fruit etc. are served
- The daily routine includes exercise, games, singing, activities, study and rest
- Special care is taken of children's hygiene, daily routine, habits, language and value systems
- Children are taught how to keep themselves safe
- Parents' meetings are conducted periodically to discuss issues pertaining to child safety and wellbeing.



Parvarish Daycares

Schooling and Academic Growth of Children

Daycare is not a substitute for school, is the strong message we give to the parents. Every school age child is enrolled in the neighborhood government school. Although parents are encouraged to get involved in the admission process and attend the parent-teacher meetings at school, our staff remains in touch with the school teachers to monitor the children's progress.

Children overall have lost almost two years of learning due to the pandemic, however, for those without access to laptops and Internet connections - the learning gap with their peers is unquantifiable. To cover this academic losses our teachers received training through *Pratham* that helps evaluate a child's individual learning level and develop individualized learning plans. The exercise has started showing excellent results amongst children already.

Events and Activities

Celebrations are an opportunity to add fun and make children aware of the importance of festivals, special days and other events. These also help form collegial bonds amongst children from different regional and religious backgrounds, as well as improve their relationship with the daycare staff.

Celebrations and Events during 2021-2022

Holi	Eid
Independence Day	Trip to an amusement park
Children's Day	Can Support Walk for Life to observe
Republic Day	World cancer Day
Christmas	Children's play on COVID-19: Care
Dipawali	and Prevention

Daycare 1

Okhla Vihar

Location and Demographics

This daycare is situated in a *Juggi Jhopri (JJ)* settlement under the Jasola metro station line in South East Delhi.

Size and capacity

It is run in a two room set with a capacity of around 30 children. Due to the immediate need for childcare arrangements for local working mothers, presently we are accommodating 40 children. The daycare will have to be soon relocated to a bigger space to accommodate a total of 50 children.

Staff

3 full time and 2 part time staff are engaged in this daycare currently. The number of staff will be increased to match the increase in daycare children.



Daycare 2

Joga Bai

Location and Demographics

The Daycare is situated near a *Juggi Jhopri (JJ)* settlement called *Bees Footta (20 feet)* in South East Delhi.

Size and capacity

Joga Bai daycare presently has 55 children. It was started with a capacity of 25 in 2018, which has doubled in number in the last 4 years. In 2021 it was shifted into a five room house which is spacious and well ventilated to accommodate the requirements of growing children. All the other resources and infrastructures have been doubled during this time.

Staff

4 full time and 2 part time staff are engaged in Joga Bai daycare. Frequently employed volunteers and interns also assist the daycare staff from time to time.



Daycare 3

Madanpur Khadar

Location and Demographics

The Daycare is situated in a *Juggi Jhopri (JJ)* settlement in Madanpur Khadar, near Banks of the Yamuna River in South East Delhi.

Size and capacity

The daycare has around 25 children. It is run in a two room set with a capacity of around 30 children. We have realized that the distance between the daycare and the *basti* that it caters to, is long thus parents find it difficult to send smaller toddlers. Efforts are being made to find a suitable space closer to the *basti* so that the facility can be utilized at its full capacity.

Staff

There are 2 full time and 1 part time staff engaged in this daycare currently. The number of staff will be increased as per need in future.





The Daycare Impact

PFO Sunshine through its different daycare systems, has been able to bring change in the lives of over 130 children and 55 mothers. Much has been achieved in the last 3 years, in spite of repeated lock downs and financial constraints faced by the organization.

Now the children are safe and cared for, while their parents are away at work. Unsupervised children are vulnerable and often exposed very early to sexual or drug abuse, and labour exploitation. Within PFO Sunshine's daycare systems, these children are able to spend these hours in a safe environment and spend time in joyful and productive activities. Children have also shown a remarkable improvement in their academic learnings. These changed attitudes amongst children towards everyday life and education, has inculcated new found confidence and creative abilities.

Project 2

Capacity Building

In a welfare organization, the successful implementation of projects rests on the performance of its team on the ground. A strong and motivated team can convert plans into action and bring about the desired change.

Capacity building is an ongoing process, especially for a young organization like PFO Sunshine which is in the process of developing system changes and learning while confronting social and economic challenges.

The PFO Sunshine team attended a range of workshops and trainings besides monthly staff meetings and brainstorming sessions during the year 2021-2022. These efforts helped in making the daycare experience more enjoyable and beneficial for the children and also less burdensome for the staff involved.

Workshops/ Trainings

- A Session on the objectives and long-term goals of PFO sunshine as an organization
- A Session on interpersonal relations and team work
- A Session on *Juvenile Justice Act 2015*
- A Session on *Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act 2021*
- A three day Aseem's Library training
- A Five day 'Reading Campaign Capacity Building Training', conducted by the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) and Pratham NGO
- Aseem's Library follow-up training
- *Nukkad natak* (street plays) training
- Story telling training

Project 3

Collaboration with other NGOs and Government Agencies

1

One of our collaborative organizations handed over complete responsibility of its two daycare centers to PFO Sunshine due to pandemic induced financial constraints. Thus from past ten months PFO Sunshine is fully running those two daycares.

2

PFO Sunshine has collaborated with Aseem's Library, an NGO that establishes small libraries in Child Care Institutions and similar agencies, provides teaching aids and stationaries and other teaching learning material. They also designs child centric activities and provide capacity building trainings to the daycare staff.

3

PFO Sunshine is working along with the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) to establish new daycares for children engaged in begging, in other neighbourhoods of South Delhi.

Project 4

Hosla: Never Too Late To Start

A group of young adults including PFO Sunshine cook and helper were motivated to learn to read and write. A teacher was appointed to help these young adults get into mainstream education after having missed crucial schools years due to family responsibilities. After a year of preparations, these adults were enrolled to class VIII through The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). In spite of facing multiple learning challenges, these adults worked really hard to manage their studies along with other professional and familial responsibilities.

Now the group is all set to touch the next milestone, as they await their class VIII results.

During the course of this time a few more youngsters and adults willing to study through NIOS have approached PFO Sunshine. A new batch will soon be enrolled to class VIII while the existing batch prepares for class X.

Project 5

Internships

Objective: Child Rights Advocacy, Awareness on Issues of the Children of Daily Wage Earners and Importance of a Preventive Approach

1. A group for four students from Symbiosis University completed two months of internship program in PFO Sunshine. The students raised funds for the organization, taught children on an online format, wrote blogs and conducted case studies. PFO Sunshine also provided them with workshop sessions on Juvenile Justice Act 2015, *Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POSCO)* Act 2021, issues faced by the children of daily wage earners and preventive methods.
2. Two class X students from a different school and a law student volunteered at PFO Sunshine during the year. They worked on social media promotion and raised funds for the organization. They attended sessions on issues faced by children and the importance of preventive approach in child rights.



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