



Documenting our commitment to our cause

Our top priority is the safety and well-being of the children in our care on construction sites. We train our teachers and staff members so that they are well-equipped to provide the best possible care for young children. However, documenting all these practices and procedures satisfactorily remains a challenge. Towards this effort, we have framed three important policies. The Photography Policy helps to protect the rights of all children in our care, detailing the necessary permissions and parameters for photography at our centres. The Food Safety and Hygiene Policy clearly details the health standards which the kitchens and food preparation areas at our centres must maintain. Lastly, the Accident and Emergency Policy lays down the standard protocol for different types of emergencies. All MMC staff are well aware of these policies and are trained to act in the appropriate manner in any given situation to ensure the safety of the children. One key institutional strengthening initiative in the past six months was the formulation of a policy against sexual harassment. This policy reflects our strong commitment to creating a safe and healthy working environment for our employees. Our mission is to create 'child-friendly' sites for migrant children and we aim to maintain the highest standards of administration, conduct, and service. Therefore, we have formally incorporated a Code of Ethics and Conduct that outlines the principles and guidelines we follow to maintain transparency, accountability, respect, honesty, and lawfulness.

A healthy start!

Four year old Saheeda lives on an Andheri construction site with her parents, two brothers and a baby sister. Her father, a head load worker on the site, earns Rs 180 a day for the family of six. When Saheeda arrived at our centre a year ago, weighing a mere 10 kg, she only spoke her native language of Bhojpuri and was extremely uncommunicative.

After examining Saheeda, the MMC doctor put her on a special diet to help her gain weight. Over the course of the next year, Saheeda's teacher saw significant improvements in both her health and her behaviour. Today, she attends the centre every day and participates in all the classroom activities. She can count and recognize shapes, enjoys singing songs, and enjoys listening to stories. The formerly silent little girl now plays and chats with her peers and teachers. She weighs 15 kg. We are happy to see Saheeda thriving at our centre and excited to watch her grow into a confident young girl!

MMC in numbers

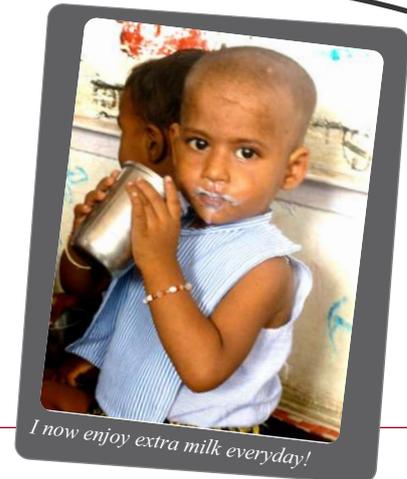
- 23** lokdoots conducted and over 4700 community members reached
- 9** health camps conducted and over 650 community members reached
- 112** PAN cards facilitated for people living on construction sites in the past six months
- 4** centres opened and 5 centres shut in the last six months
- 11** eye camps were facilitated and over 700 community members were benefited



Notes from the Field

Nourishing our future

We continue to make significant strides in our nutrition programme for children living on construction sites. Last year we started providing fruits twice a week, and eggs weekly at all our centres. This addition was received very enthusiastically, which encouraged us to further intensify our nutrition efforts. A few months ago, we increased the sizes of the portions of all essential foods in the children's daily diet, such as rice, dal, and milk.. We will continue to closely monitor the impact of our nutrition programme to ensure that all children on construction sites benefit from a hearty, healthy and delicious diet!



I now enjoy extra milk everyday!



A proud display of their achievement

Graduating into a Bright Future

Each year, we proudly watch a new batch of teacher trainees graduate from our year-long Bal Palika training programme as capable and enthusiastic caregivers. This year ten of the twelve women who completed their training are from construction sites. The year-long training not only provides community women with valuable professional skills and knowledge that will allow them to work as childcare givers, but also encourages community investment in childcare and education programmes.

Advocating for Change

At MMC, our advocacy programme is a crucial part of our effort towards breaking the vicious cycles of poverty that plague so many vulnerable communities in Mumbai. In these past six months, our advocacy programme has seen a number of successes. From April-September 2012, we organized eleven eye camps and nine health camps for construction workers, reaching a total of 1,390 men and women. These are our highest numbers yet! We also continued to disseminate information on relevant issues to communities living on construction sites through 'lok-doots' or street-plays. In the past six months we conducted 23 plays on twenty construction sites reaching over 4700 people, on topics ranging from de-addiction and the importance of hygiene at home, to educating the girl child and best practices of safety while working on sites. We also partnered with the Maharashtra District Aids Council to facilitate street plays on prevention of HIV/AIDS.



Our Lok-doot team acting out a skit on a construction site

Encouraging youngsters to achieve their dreams

At MMC, support doesn't end when a 15-year-old child leaves our formal programme. In addition to emotional and financial support, we also aim to provide skill-building and networking opportunities for our graduates so that they may utilize their talents to pursue further academic and vocational opportunities. One such effort was made through our youth camp where 64 youth from 2 centres attended the day long intensive sessions. At these camps, the objectives were to address the issues that migrants face regarding professional and vocational opportunities and help participants become aware of their options regarding technical and academic courses. The camp focused on career guidance through open discussions, presentations from outside facilitators, interactive performances to encourage conversation, and more. We are confident that providing our former students with assistance and support will enable them to pursue successful futures and become change-makers in our society. We extend our sincere thanks to members from the Kotak Education Fund and from Yuva Parivartan for providing valuable insights on the options and resources available to our youth.

New Initiatives

Leading MMC to greater heights

We have always valued collaboration and interdisciplinary dialogue in our work and in our strategic implementation of programmes for migrant children. Partnering with caring individuals and likeminded NGOs in a variety of fields has helped optimise our approach to education, nutrition, health, teacher training, and advocacy work over the years. We felt MMC would greatly benefit from the help of an advisory panel, whose role it would be to counsel the management on plans for expansion, growth, and internal strengthening. We are delighted to announce that we have now formed an advisory panel comprising seven illustrious and experienced members: Dr. Asha Chakraborty, Mr. Pirojsha Godrej, Mr. Tushar Gandhi, Ms. Chandra Iyengar, Dr. Nilima Mehta, Mr. Michael Pinto, and Mr. R.R Shastri. These individuals bring a wide range of skills and knowledge to our organisation that will provide us with new insight into our working and the areas in which we can improve. We are grateful for their commitment to our cause and look forward to partnering with them to make MMC as strong and effective a service delivery organisation as possible.

Scaling up our efforts to build childcare capacities

Our efforts to build childcare capacities in Mumbai through training, partnerships, and community support continue to grow and thrive. In the past six months we have made significant progress in training women living in slums areas around Mumbai to become child care givers. We have now successfully trained women in the Worli, and Bhandup areas of Mumbai under a 25 day course to provide them with the salient skills and knowledge to become competent childcare givers. We have also conducted a 3 day refresher training course for the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) anganwadi teachers in Dharavi. We also ran a three-month training course with twenty employees of a slum based NGO. We are fortunate to help further strengthen childcare capacities for marginalised communities in the city of Mumbai.



An engaged group of women engrossed at a training session

Building the Capacities of our Teachers

For many years, we have emphasized capacity building initiatives as a means to provide the best possible services for migrant children and families in Mumbai. This includes training our teachers in best childcare practices and providing them with opportunities to upgrade their skills and knowledge.

With the recent implementation of our Food Safety and Hygiene Policy, we had a wonderful exchange with chefs at the Taj Vivanta Hotel. The Taj chefs visited our centre and then the teachers had the opportunity to visit the Taj kitchens and learn some very important culinary concepts from some of the city's most talented chefs. This hands-on experience improved our teachers' understanding of the importance of hygienic food preparation and taught them how to keep food preparation spaces safe and clean.

In another capacity building effort, our teachers attended first aid courses in which they learned basic principles and response techniques for medical emergencies. With these skills, our teachers are well prepared to handle any medical issue at the centres.

These initiatives have helped provide our teachers with valuable caretaking skills, and we look forward to pursuing more capacity training opportunities for our teaching staff in the future.



Learning is a continual process at MMC!

Fundraising and Friendraising

Running the Extra Mile for a Cause

We're excited as always as our biggest annual fundraiser approaches - the Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon! Next year's marathon will be held on 20th January 2013. MMC has participated in the marathon for many years, and in 2012 we were one of the top ten fundraisers for the event. We look forward to the marathon each year, as it helps us to re-connect with our friends and donors and watch with pride as they bear our logo and show their support for the cause of migrant children. Our participants always report how exciting it is to run alongside nearly 40,000 people. Whether they complete the Dream Run (6 km), the half marathon (21 km), or the marathon (42 km) they all have great fun. We're thrilled with the large number of corporates and individuals who have committed to running on our behalf. For details on how you can get involved in our largest fundraiser, please contact elsa@mmcmail.org.in

Thank you!

We are deeply grateful for the support of our many friends-individuals, organizations, and corporates alike- in helping us build a bright future for Mumbai's migrant children. Our work would not have been possible without your kindness and commitment to our programme. In particular, we would like to thank...

- Training Incorporate for conducting a probono communication workshop for our staff members
- Impact International for connecting us with Thomson Reuters employees to engage in a volunteering project for MMC
- Alvaro, Asli, Megan, Prakash, Rory and Wang Li from Thomson Reuters for their amazing work and support!
- Mr. Ananthraman and Mr. Rajat Gupta for generously supporting our teachers' salaries
- EdelGive Foundation for their renewed support of our programme
- Verein Mobile Krippen Freiburg, Premadhara der Strom Liebe e.V. and Mr. Pankoke for their consistent support of our work
- Volunteers from ACC Ahead for conducting an informative guidance session on adolescence for 53 women and girls at our Patlipada centre
- Abigail Russo, World Partners Fellow from American Jewish World Service, for her dedicated volunteering efforts with us
- GiveIndia for their hard work in raising funds and awareness for our organization
- KPMG in India for organizing a number of fun and educational activities and outings for our children, and for adding a much needed coat of paint to some of our centres
- Mr Robert Pavery, Mr. Sunil Nakashe, Mr. Shirish Rahalkar and Mr. Sanjeev Joshi for their assistance with accounts and regulatory work.
- Roshika Singh and the Cathedral Pre-Primary School for hosting a fun Friendship Day event for our Agripada students and sponsoring a lunch at Agripada in honour of Teacher's Day
- Watson Pharma Pvt Ltd for sponsoring a fun-filled event at our Sahar centre and gifting toys and games to the children
- Mr. Astad Parekh for providing two televisions and three DVD players to enrich the learning at some of our centres.
- Blue Sky for their generous annual funding of our programme through Johnson Control India Private Ltd.
- Mr and Mrs Beckingham for gracing the graduation of our latest batch of trainees as Chief Guests
- Syntel for organizing a fun and educational bird watching session at the H.C.C. Powai centre through the Ishan Hatekar Foundation
- IL&FS Investment Managers Ltd for sponsoring fun movie outings for children.
- Janet Geddes for helping us strategize our fundraising efforts and for her gracious support of our work.
- Breach Candy Swimming Bath Trust for organizing their annual swimming session for our Agripada students.



- United World College, Singapore, for raising awareness and funds for our cause by organising a fundraising gala.
- Marlien Rietkerk for her diligent volunteering work in our office.
- The Columbia University Global Center in Mumbai for arranging a visit from Columbia University students participating in the Global Scholars Program to see our Agripada centre and engage in dialogue about international development
- Common Purpose for arranging for Experian employees and executives to visit our Agripada centre, and to the Experian employees for their subsequent generous donations to MMC
- Reliance Capital Ltd for their generous contribution towards our nutrition programme and for volunteering at our centres.
- The Central Social Welfare Board for supporting our programme.
- Jamsetji Tata Trust for supporting our advocacy programme.
- Our donors-, Child Vikaas International, Concern India Foundation, The British Asian Trust, The Global Fund for Children, for their continuous and very generous support of our work.
- The X'Mas Fund for making a generous donation towards our cause.
- Godrej Properties Ltd for their generous donation towards our Corpus Fund.
- The Nirav Modi Foundation for their consistent support to our work
- The Essar Group for volunteering with our children at or Agripada Centre
- DHFL for giving some of our children the dream opportunity of watching an IPL match at the stadium
- Dr Paresnath Paul for his much appreciated continued monthly support
- Other friends who have helped us to sustain our commitment to the children of construction workers.