



Care on Wheels – Mobile Bus Programme

We are really excited to announce the launch of the Care on Wheels - Mobile Bus Programme at MMC! This project is a huge step towards providing a happy, healthy, and safe childhood to all children living on smaller construction sites in Mumbai. Our first-ever Mobile Bus got its wheels turning on August 6th, 2013, when it made its first trip to Powai, and spent its time parked at two remote construction sites, each of which has 10-15 children living on the site. The bus spends mornings at one site and afternoons at the other site from Monday to Saturday. The Mobile Bus provides around 30 children with nutrition and education services. We also conducted a general routine medical check-up camp for 25 children on 11th September, 2013. In the coming years, we hope to be able to expand the Mobile Bus Programme to reach children living on remote construction sites around Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, and Thane! Thank you, KPMG in India for sponsoring Care on Wheels – a new venture of MMC.



Kalpana goes to school!

Kalpana, 10, is a student at our Kandivali centre, who hails from a remote village in Maharashtra. Her family, like many other migrant families, came to Mumbai in search of better job opportunities. Kalpana's father, Laxman Chauhan, 38, is an unskilled worker at the construction site, and her mother, Dero Bai, shares the financial burden of taking care of the three children by working at the construction site as an unskilled worker.

When Kalpana joined MMC, she was very shy and reluctant to speak. Her parents wanted Kalpana and her siblings to attend school at least until the 12th grade so that the children would not have to do the same kind of menial labour as their parents. "Our children should work hard and become well respected people in society," they said. But even though the parents were eager to send Kalpana to school, they were scared to do so because they were new to the city. Their fears worsened when they realized that the nearest municipal school was a Hindi medium school, as they speak only Marathi. The chai pani monthly meetings, where the teachers have the opportunity to talk directly with the parents, and the persistent encouragement of the teachers at the centre helped pave the way for Kalpana to enroll in the BMC school this July. She comes to the centre after her school, where many students like Kalpana receive after school support. It also eases her fears about learning subjects in Hindi as the teachers at the centre help Kalpana learn Hindi. MMC is committed to giving her all the support she needs to help her continue her education and to achieve her goals.

MMC in numbers

26 lokdoots conducted and over 4300 community members reached

3 health camps held and over 168 community members reached

220 PAN cards and **50** Aadhar Cards facilitated for people living on construction sites in the past six months

2 day care centres opened in the last six months

2 sites covered by the mobile bus in the last six months

9 eye camps were facilitated and over 380 community members were benefited



Children posing with Mobile Bus!

Notes from the Field

Bal Palika Graduation

MMC is proud to announce that in August, 16 women graduated from our Bal Palika teachers training course, 9 of whom were from families who labour at the construction sites. Our year-long programme is extensive and provides these women with the skills and knowledge necessary to teach and look after the very young child. The course includes the study of early childhood development and methods for engaging, stimulating, and encouraging the growth and development of young children, including cognitive and social development. There is also a practical aspect to the programme to ensure that teachers graduate with experience in the classroom. We currently have over 30 women registered for the next training session which began in August 2013.

Although we have run our successful training course for over thirty years, we are constantly seeking ways to expand the programme. Last year, Dharma Bharti Mission – an organisation working in a slum area with underprivileged families - approached us for teacher training. We are very happy to say that a batch of 6 graduated successfully from this training programme along with our Bal Palika trainees.



Summer camp for older children

This year, MMC conducted 3 summer camps in April and May which reached a total of 131 youths living on construction sites. Children from Patlipada-Thane, Hiranandani-Powai, and Global City-Virar attended the trainings along with children from neighbouring centres who had an interest in learning how to take charge of their own futures. Our summer camps are focused on working with older children to provide them with information regarding opportunities for higher education, vocational training courses, and preparations for entering the job market. It is our hope that these children will be able to utilize the information we provide to make informed decisions and to access the resources that are available to them to achieve their highest potential!



Migration Resource Centres

Opening our first Migration Resource Centre (MRC) in 2012-13, on the Sahar site in Andheri, had been very exciting. It has helped increase our ability to reach the construction site community. This year we opened two more MRCs- on the Lemon Tree site in Kandivali on 31st August, 2013, and Hiranandani PatlipadaThane site on 20th September, 2013. The MRC is a place where workers can congregate after working hours to learn about various issues including prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, the importance of education, and health and hygiene. It is also a space for community building where construction labourers can read the newspaper, play carom, or discuss important social issues they are facing. It is our hope to be able to open more such centres as part of our advocacy initiative in the coming year.

Indian Premier League Cricket Match

As a part of the Reliance Foundation and Mumbai Indians team's "Education for All" initiative, some of our children were given an amazing opportunity to attend an Indian Premier League (IPL) match and got a chance to cheer for their team as the Mumbai Indians beat the Pune Warriors. It was a real treat for our children to go to the IPL cricket game on April 13th at the Wankhede Stadium. The 139 children and 15 teachers all had a wonderful time watching their favourite cricketers. We are especially proud of our girl, Shraddha Sagwekar, who was chosen to go onto the field to do the toss during the opening ceremony of the game. She was overjoyed, and we were so proud to see her standing in the field along with all the cricketers!

The children were given an array of Mumbai Indians memorabilia which they could wear during the game and take home as a keepsake to remember that evening forever. Overall, it was a wonderful day, full of fun and excitement that the children will surely never forget! This opportunity was truly a once-in-a-lifetime chance for many of these children, and the joy and excitement they experienced is immeasurable.

New Initiatives

Affiliation with SNTD University for our Bal Palika course

In an effort to increase the credibility of our Bal Palika course, as well as the employability of the women who go through it, MMC sought a partnership with SNTD University to gain affiliation. SNTD is a well-known women's university, which has provided MMC with its curriculum and framework for Early Childcare Education. We have incorporated all aspects of the university's training into ours and will continue using our unique approach, which is specifically tailored to the children of migrant workers, in addition to the university's. In this way, the trainees who graduate from our course will earn a certificate from an accredited university. This step has helped MMC's training course gain credibility as a rigorous academic undertaking and to help increase job opportunities for the women we train. We used to have this affiliation earlier, but had to stop when the University changed its medium of instruction and also raised its fees to what was then an unaffordable amount for us.

Volunteering – CEO Programme

This year, MMC partnered with Columbia University, based in New York, USA, to host Summer Interns through the Columbia Experience Overseas programme. Allison Kammert and Benjamin Harris spent June and July at our office working on improving MMC's fundraising and communications strategies, respectively. We were grateful to have hosted them and hope to partner with Columbia again next monsoon to host more interns. Big thanks to Allison and Ben for spending their holiday working with us!



Expansion of the ICDS nutrition programme

India's Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) was established to provide education and nutrition for young children around the country in order to enhance their ability to survive and succeed. The scheme includes setting up centres (Anganwadi) for children aged birth-6 and providing them with nutrition services MMC has partnered with the government in the past to conduct teacher-training courses for the Anganwadi workers, and it has been our hope to expand our collaboration with ICDS for quite some time. Over the last six months, we have been able to strengthen our ties with the government by partnering with them to provide nutritious lunch and snacks to the children age 3 – 6 at 25 of our centres. We hope to work with ICDS to expand this project to all of our centres and continue building a partnership with the government for years to come.

Facilitative Model of MMC

Mumbai Mobile Creches has currently started running a facilitation centre in collaboration with Transcon Developers in the Mulund area. Transcon Developers approached MMC in August 2013 as it sought help in setting up centre on its construction site. Under MMC's facilitative model, the builder covers almost all of the operational costs of running a centre on the construction site and takes on greater responsibility for managing the crèche. The builder also hires local staff trained by MMC and allows the centre to be regularly monitored by MMC staff.

With the support of MMC, in September 2013, Transcon opened its facility for children living on its construction site, available for three hours a day. Transcon has hired a teacher for the facility, who has been trained in MMC's Bal Palika teacher training programme, and an MMC Assistant Programme Coordinator will be monitoring the centre to ensure high-quality care. This is a very significant move for MMC, and a step towards making the day care facility initiative with builders' complete collaboration sustainable for the long term.

Fundraising and Friendraising

Mumbai Marathon

We're excited as always as our biggest annual fundraiser approaches - the Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon! Next year's marathon will be held on 19th January 2014. 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 reconnect 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 along with 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 communications@mmcmail.org.in

Social Media

Would you like to get more frequent updates about MMC? We are regularly posting on Facebook and Twitter. "Follow" us on Twitter @MMC_NGO, "Friend" and "Like" us on Facebook at [facebook.com/MumbaiMobileCreches](https://www.facebook.com/MumbaiMobileCreches), and "Follow" us on Google+ at Mumbai Mobile Creches! Please join us on these social networks as a way of supporting our cause, creating awareness, and staying informed!

Thank you!

We are truly grateful for the support of our many friends - individuals, organizations, and corporates alike- in helping us to ensure that all children in our care have a nurturing and happy childhood through our holistic programme. Our work would not have been possible without your generosity and commitment to our cause. In particular, we would like to thank:

- Bina Sippy, Dr.NeerjaTakkar, Firestar International Pvt Ltd, First Presbyterian Church, Nirav Modi Foundation and Rajesh Nair for their support of our nutrition programme. We are truly grateful that you have taken interest in supporting the health and wellbeing of MMC's children!
- The Breadsticks Foundation - our new funder whom we would like to thank in particular, for generously funding the core components of MMC's programmes.
- The Central Social Welfare Board for continuing to supporting our programme.
- Brannigan Relocations Pvt. Ltd, Crown Worldwide Movers Pvt. Ltd, Experian Ltd., Godrej Properties Ltd., and the Kashinath Charitable Trust for their generous support to our corpus fund. These contributions have helped to insure the continuity of our programmes and in helping to secure MMC's financial stability. Thank you for this much needed support!
- Dr.Pareshnath Paul, Mr.Rishad Premji and Wishing Well for their continuous support to our cause.
- GiveIndia and Give Foundation for continuing to effectively facilitate funding for us by providing us access to interested donors.
- Girish Menon, Hitesh Pathak, Jaya Pillai, Rekha Menon, Shilpa Adarkar - for sponsoring a new initiative of Nimbu-Pani (fresh lime water) for all of the children and teachers at all our centres, throughout Mumbai's summer heat. It was such a refreshing treat for our children and staff, thank you!
- IL&FS Investment Managers Pvt. Ltd for their generous contribution to MMC's programme and sponsoring a number of exciting outings for our children.
- Jamsetji Tata Trust for supporting our advocacy programme.
- Kiran Wadhvani and Luna Kulkarni, for their dedicated volunteering with us.
- A big thank you to KPMG in India and Mr.Rupendra Singh, who have shown admirable dedication in their commitment to our work over the past two years. They provided invaluable funding for many components of our programme including the newly launched 'Care on Wheels' Programme.

- MoneyGram Foundation, IDBI Bank, Impact Foundation for providing invaluable support to MMC's programme.



- Mr.Ananthraman and Mr.Rajat Gupta for generously supporting our teachers' salaries.
- Mumbai Connexions team for volunteering at our centres. Special thanks to Jill Beckingham for her dedicated work at the Agripada centre which has greatly enhanced our programme. Thanks to Sei Chang and Jenny for volunteering at our office and helping us to develop our communication material.
- Navajbai Ratan Tata Trust and Sir Ratan Tata Trust under the Parag Initiative and Fair Childhood for the great boost to our Library programme.
- Our donors – British Asian Trust, Concern India Foundation, Dasra USA, The Global Fund and The Impact Foundation for Children for their continued and generous support to our work.
- Verein Mobile Krippen Freiburg, Premadhara der Strom Liebe e.V. and Mr.Pankoke for their consistent support of our work, which provides us with much needed security.
- To all donors who generously donated for MMC's 'Global Giving Challenge' project.
- Other friends who have helped us to sustain our commitment to the children of construction workers.