Aangan works with children in dangerous situations like trafficking, child marriage, hazardous work, violence and abuse.

In 2015, across
40 hotspots,
82 rescue and shelter homes,
42 districts with high incidence of child harm
6 states;

We reached –
56,169 vulnerable children at high-risk or harmed through child marriage, child trafficking, hazardous work and abuse from 16,223 most marginalized families

• 76% families belong to Schedule Caste, Schedule Tribes and Other Backward Classes
• 24% families belong to minority communities
• 24% families belong to a migrant population
Aangan’s prevention model targets “hotspots” across high-risk districts working with parents, children and government officials to build strong care and protection systems that keep children safe.

Aangan’s post-harm model involves working in government rescue homes and shelter homes with child survivors in order to make government rehabilitation systems better equipped for healing, recovery and reintegration.

Children will be safe in communities with strong child protection systems

A hotspot is a high-risk urban basti or rural village where children are vulnerable to trafficking, child marriage, hazardous work and abuse. These are located in some of the most backward and marginalized districts, as identified by Government of India’s Backward Regions Grant Fund, UNODC and UNICEF.

Children will be safe with effective rehabilitation
Aangan has recently developed a **Child Protection Impact Matrix (CPIM)** to visually represent and map our various impact outcomes aimed at advancing child rights and creating safe communities for children. This matrix not only helps us to visually and compactly communicate our programmatic outcomes to external stakeholders, but it also helps us to internally evaluate and track the journey of our intervention outcomes in a comprehensive manner. Aangan interventions influence all four domains - we believe that progress must simultaneously occur in each of these four domains if we are to eventually bring about systemic community-level changes, where all children are free from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect.

*CPIM is adapted from the Global Fund for Women ‘The Change Matrix’*
Family strengthening work combines awareness about child harm risks and preparedness for adverse conditions. Ensuring most marginalized families can access rights, social protection and basic services for survival directly impacts a family’s ability to keep children safe from child marriage, trafficking or exploitation.

- Birth Certificates, ID documents and special status documents for 1522 children and 5411 families
- 471 girls’ families had access to government anti child marriage schemes to keep girls safe in school, free from child marriage
- Care and protection systems accessed through existing government foster care and aanganwadis (crèche/nutritional centers) for 179 children
- Improved access to free/affordable health services and emergency care for 3650 families and children
- Access to existing government financial protection schemes for poorest families (pension, insurance, etc.) for 7142 families
- Access to existing government employment programs for 581 families
- Access to school and vocational training: 4618 children

Community awareness and engagement on child safety:

- Increased technical skills on child protection for 509 barefoot child protection volunteers
- Community groups to engage with child protection: 6331

Note: An average increase in financial resources amounting to INR 24,900 per household through uptake of government schemes and services - directly contributing to the prevention of a range of child harm factors such as school drop-out, child labour, early marriage and trafficking. Average household income of INR43200 ($645) per annum, which implies a 58% increase through access to government programs and free services.
OUR IMPACT: Increased Child Agency & Community Action

14593 vulnerable children enabled to effectively avert and respond to varied forms of child harm

11597 girls affect change for themselves and others in the community

9204 children remained safe through customized safety plans created by children to address their own individual safety needs

3356 empowered boys have been gender-sensitized by revisiting societal norms around gender roles

2652 at-risk boys kept safe from serious harm through identification and planning around personal risk triggers

354 unique group initiatives spread across 40 hotspots have responded to specific need-based community child harm issues
SPEAKING UP AGAINST CHILD MARRIAGE AND TRAFFICKING

When Saira, 14, found out that friend Rubina was getting engaged in a few days to a man from a village in Uttar Pradesh, she began to worry. The man’s family did not want dowry. Saira was worried that her friend was also at risk of being trafficked. Deciding to take action, Saira mobilised a support group – 9 girls from school and her safety network and one of the girls’ mothers – and went to Rubina’s house. There they spoke to Rubina’s mother, urging her not to get her daughter engaged, to be alert to the dangers of trafficking and the risks to her safety. Facing resistance, they also spoke of how it was against the law. They asked her to send Rubina to safety circles, to help her make safety plans and be aware of risks.

BEING ALERT TOWARDS LABOUR TRAFFICKING

After a fight with his brother, Raghav, 14, ran away from home, and went to the railway station near his basti in Bihar. Two men approached him and told him about employment opportunities in a nearby district and urged him to come with them, promising him a well-paying job. He refused. In the safety circles that he attended, he had discussed trafficking for labour with his group. This incident had set off alarm bells. He then noticed a group of 6 boys on the platform. Worried that the two men might approach them next, he went up to them and warned them of the risk of trafficking and urged them to return home.
I. Staying in School and Keeping Safe: How a Water Pump made the Difference

In Koniya, Varanasi, 28 adolescent girls were worried about dropping out of school, but regular admonition from school authorities about their irregular attendance and unpunctuality was making them fear there would be no choice. When they talked about addressing the problem in girl safety networks, it came down to the fact that girls were compelled to collect water from across the railway track- a high-risk area where they were at high risk of violence and abuse, and which was so far that school attendance and timings were becoming difficult. Shakti girls decided they would get a community water pump into their basti by approaching their ward official. The girls went door-to-door, collecting 200 signatures from community members, presented their case to the government officer, and with Jal Sansthan (the local water board). It worked! They got a new hand pump installed. 28 girls are not just back in school, but 30,000 people in the basti are now able to access safe and clean water from this pump.

II. Ten Girls make their Community Safer

In Govandi, Mumbai, 10 members of the Shakti girl safety group identified sexual harassment as one of the key safety issues in their basti. For most girls, this was resulting in their families making rules about them never leaving home and staying indoors - increasing their isolation. Adjoining one of the largest garbage dumping grounds in Mumbai, the basti has a high incidence of violence, which often compels parents to keep girls at home, ‘for their safety’. During a girl safety network meeting, a group of girls decided to reach out to boys. The girls recorded a video talking and sharing their experiences of harassment, reminding boys that that it even made them give up on school, vocational training or work dream. They invited adolescent boys in their basti for a screening - and the response was better than girls could have imagined. Now confident, the girls got together with Aangan's boy safety group in the same location and then ran a signature campaign so that a local police chowki could be constructed and for increased police patrolling. The girls took photographs of unsafe spaces in their community to put together an exhibition through which to share their experiences with members of the community and the police. As a result of their efforts, the police have increased patrolling in the community, keeping 600 children safer from risk.
ACCESS TO LIVELIHOOD IN CHANDAULI, UP

Identified as one of the most backward districts by the Ministry of Rural Development, Chandauli in Uttar Pradesh has deeply entrenched poverty. A majority of the families subsist on earnings from selling firewood from the forest. Strained circumstances, exacerbated by stringent caste divisions, make families and children highly vulnerable to abuse, trafficking and unsafe migration. Barefoot child protection volunteers there have linked women and adolescent boys from the community to sustainable livelihood generation training under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) such as making detergent powder and cycle repairing. An official from the district land reforms department was present for these linkages, where 13 women and 9 boys were registered for the respective income generation trainings.

% of government units across 40 hotspots in regular dialogue with child protection volunteers

73% District Child Protection Units
80% Local Police Officials
80% Child Welfare Committees
20% Anti-Human Trafficking Units
47% Labour Officials
53% Education Officers
40% Child Marriage Prohibition Officers
75% Health Officers

109 key government stakeholders activated to routinely engage in child protection measures and activities

Empowering, sensitizing, capacity building and increasing community access to key government officials
Across 82 rescue and shelter homes 163 Child Welfare and Probation Officers trained to be more trauma informed

**RESULT**

2231 survivors of harm received individual trauma response and care

1580 Care plans were created to facilitate rehabilitation and reintegration

693 Care plans presented to Child Welfare Committees

**CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE**

On December 19-20, 2015, Aangan organised a roundtable discussion with 22 members of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Mumbai, geared towards ensuring children’s safety by strengthening child protection networks. These CWCs are source and destination districts for trafficking and supporting them to strengthen the work of child protection is key. Through this two-day discussion, CWC members found a platform to share and hear about successes, challenges and lessons learnt in responding to children’s protection needs from CWCs in different districts. They had an opportunity to create a network between their CWC and those in source and destination areas to address challenges around inter-state coordination.

“Relationships are key to building linkages. That becomes critical because if you have a problem, then people will respond.”
– CWC Chairperson, Lucknow

“We have to ensure that the community is prepared to receive the child. For this, the CWC, DCPU, NGOs and panchayat have to work together.”
– Director, IDEA
Aangan's mother volunteer group in our Wadala community were selected as ‘Mumbai Heroes’ by the annual Mumbai Mirror Mumbai Heroes Award 2015, for their ground level work to prevent child trafficking and harm and to keep children safe. Mumbai Mirror is a popular local newspaper and the jury comprised well-known and respected Mumbai citizens.
Building safe communities
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