MESSAGE FROM SUPARNA GUPTA
FOUNDER

I am proud to present Aangan’s annual report for the year 2014-2015, a year when we demonstrated two models intensively across 112 “hot spots” across India – where children are at risk of, affected by or rescued from serious harm, like child marriage, child trafficking, hazardous work, abuse and violence. Some of Aangan’s most powerful impact this year can be summed up in these snapshots.

Aangan’s prevention program ran in villages and bastis (urban settlements), selected to reach the most marginalized families, vulnerable because they are from scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and migrant groups as well as because of harmful traditional practices like bonded labour, child trafficking and child marriage. In 36 of the 39 communities, there had been no parent or community involvement at all in planning for child safety and protection. Aangan’s program PACT is now entrenched into community systems.

More than 230 parent groups were trained with technical skills as barefoot child protection workers. In turn, they engaged 23,000 parents and alerted them to issues of child protection, spotlighting the issue for the first time. Parents learned to approach child safety and protection by asking two kinds of questions: What can we do for ourselves as a community? What can we do with government officials?

Across 30 neighbourhoods, groups of more than 300 girls attended girl safety circles and 100 boys attended boy safety circles. Safety circles are now a known safe space for children to meet, talk, collaborate and strategize about safety, support and opportunities. Program Shakti for girls and Program Chauraha for boys are both well entrenched in the communities now.

In each community, families reached out to government officials to work together. For the first time, this group of mothers began to dialogue with police on child safety. Missing children were reported, exploitation or abuse when spotted was reported, out-of-school children were mapped and officials used this data effectively. It is important to note that at the start of the year, 54% of these parents did not believe that government officials would help their children because they did not have their children’s best interest at heart. This changed and both have begun to dialogue and collaborate – bringing child safety into the centre of the community work.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Aangan funders, friends, advisors, supporters, and partners. We look forward to deepening the work even further in 2015-2016.

Suparna Gupta
Founder Director

Photo: Humans of Bombay
Aangan works to strengthen or build child protection mechanisms that both prevent as well as respond to children’s exploitation and threats to their security and wellbeing.

Our prevention work is located in urban bastis or slums where impoverished children and families are supported and empowered to create a safe environment for children. The work of response focuses on strengthening the state’s capabilities in rehabilitating children who have been rescued or have escaped from situations of violence, exploitation or other hazards and are kept in childcare institutions.

Our work is centered around children who are normally invisible such as children hidden away in childcare institutions, working adolescents who do not have the benefit of protection under inadequate labour laws, out of school children who are isolated in their homes or at work in the informal sector, and children engaging in illegal and risky activities.

We believe that if children, adults and state authorities engage with one another to identify, build and strengthen mechanisms that ensure children’s protection, then communities will be safe for all children.

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

Protection
from harm, abuse, exploitation and neglect: including the prevention of physical and sexual violence, exploitative and hazardous (including criminal) work, child marriage, and dangerous activities such as drug use and unsafe sex.

Opportunities
for development: including non-hazardous, sustainable livelihood (with dignity) as well as access to educational and vocational training in order for children to secure their future safety and survival.

Access
to essential services: such as access to food, shelter, sanitation, and affordable healthcare.

Community ties
and social relationships: or the identification, creation and/ or strengthening of social networks of support for children and families within the community or area where they live. It may include building supportive families, helping children identify trustworthy adults, forming parent groups and peer support networks, etc.

BUILDING SAFE COMMUNITIES

Working with children

Working with parents

Working with governments
Aangan does prevention and response work in 6 states to promote safe communities for children. Across 300 households each in 39 communities, Aangan works with children who are vulnerable to hazardous or exploitative work, trafficking, early marriage, violence and abuse. They live in migrant communities, by garbage dumping grounds, railway tracks, and have little or no access to services like education and health. Aangan also works in 57 government shelter homes with children who have been rescued from serious harm.

**Children Reached: 57116**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vulnerability type</th>
<th>Inter-locality &amp; Inter-state Trafficking for Hazardous Work</th>
<th>Child Marriage</th>
<th>Sex Trafficking</th>
<th>Hazardous Work</th>
<th>Violence and Abuse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children at risk in communities</td>
<td>5400</td>
<td>6000</td>
<td>6900</td>
<td>7500</td>
<td>32556</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children at acute risk who are a part of safety networks</td>
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<td>2376</td>
<td>2326</td>
<td>3606</td>
<td>4881</td>
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<td>Serious harm cases identified and responded to</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OUTCOMES:**

- ALERT, INFORMED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITIES
- EMPOWERED, RESILIENT AND SUPPORTED CHILDREN
- PROACTIVE AND RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
- COORDINATION: LINKING COMMUNITIES TO GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS & WELFARE SERVICES

**CHILDREN REACHED 57116**

- Attended Shakti safety networks
  - Prevention work 9934
  - Response work 2934
  - Accessed schemes and services 40333
  - Serious harm cases identified and responded to 208

- Attended Chauraha safety networks
  - Prevention work 2744
  - Response work 963

- Family work though PACT
  - 40541
ALERT, INFORMED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITIES

309 child protection workers trained

Aangan's PACT program trains barefoot community child protection workers to recognize, prevent and respond to harm. In each of the 39 hotspots, groups of 6 child protection workers are trained and empowered to be alert to child protection issues such as early marriage, trafficking, violence and abuse, and hazardous work, to share information and mobilize support for action, and to activate government systems and services to promote children's safety and protection.

Baseline – End-line Survey with PACT Workers

Have you ever got together with others in the community to take up child protection related issues?

- Before: 32%
- After: 97%

Do you believe you can do anything to make the community safer for children?

- Before: 26%
- After: 100%

Do you know of any government efforts like laws, government schemes or appointed officials meant to ensure your child is safe?

- Before: 18%
- After: 5%

Can you approach government officials?

- Before: 17%
- After: 1%
PACT workers are trained to work with 50 families each, identify risks, proactively respond to child harm cases, link communities to child protection officers and ensure access to key government schemes and services. Shakti activators are trained to independently mobilize vulnerable girls, and facilitate and sustain girl safety networks.

1466 children with no identification proof now have birth certificates and can access any welfare scheme, get enrolled into school and most importantly, have an identity.

11370 children have benefitted from accessing and registering for government welfare and child protection schemes and services.

1032 out-of-school or dropout children are now enrolled and attending school regularly.

208 Identified and ensured response/support to 208 children in situations of serious harm or risk like sexual violence, abuse, trafficking, abandonment and neglect.

Juhi, 15, ran away from home in Arrah in Bhojpur district, Bihar, ending up at the Patna railway station. A rickshaw puller, on the pretext of getting her work, was attempting to take her to his house at night. An alert Shakti girl in Kaushal Nagar, Patna noticed the girl with the man and notified the PACT workers.

Knowing several residents in Kaushal Nagar are traffickers, and the buying and selling of children is a traditional practice in the community, they were worried for Juhi’s safety. PACT workers then reached out, stood up against the auto driver and took her to one of their houses and contacted the police. In the absence of a woman police officer, they decided not to go to the police station till morning. Next, they contacted Childline and Juhi’s mother. Worried about her daughter, she travelled to the city to take her home.

EMPOWERED, RESILIENT AND SUPPORTED CHILDREN

16575 children reached

Aangan runs Shakti girl safety networks and Chauraha boy safety networks to link isolated and at-risk children to a peer network that aims to build resilience and empower children. Here, they develop educational, vocational and safety plans for themselves, participate in community safety projects, and develop negotiation skills to resist the pressures of child marriage or hazardous work. They do this by learning about rights and entitlements, articulating their aspirations and accessing key services. Safety networks run every fortnight through the year and are typically attended by 60 girls and 40 boys per community every month.

BRIDAL BUSINESS

When PACT workers in Kazzakpura, Varanasi realized that child marriage was being used as a front for trafficking, they decided to build awareness among community adults, make adolescent girls alert to warning signs, and strategize on approaching religious and government authorities.

Find out more: http://youtu.be/U1ADQTrWvUc
Baseline survey of 1129 Shakti girls:
- 95% never approached a government official
- 53% could not express themselves to their families
- 64% were scared of speaking their minds to their families.

Baseline survey of 300 Chauraha boys:
- 48% believed that boys don't get sexually abused
- 96% were not aware of any laws, schemes or protective services related to children.
- 86% believed that a woman's most important job is to look after the children and cook for the family.

Of 12868 girls:
- 95% never approached a government official
- 53% were not able to negotiate with their families
- 64% could not express themselves to their families
- 96% were not able to negotiate with their families

Of 3707 boys:
- 48% believed that boys don't get sexually abused
- 96% believed that a woman's most important job is to look after the children and cook for the family

Note: End-line survey currently being conducted

As part of Shakti, 9934 vulnerable adolescent girls across 36 communities are a part of peer safety networks, are empowered to recognize risks, have reduced isolation, increased resilience and have access to services and opportunities.

2934 girls rescued from trafficking, abuse and child marriage across 57 shelter homes are now engaged in safety networks and have a comprehensive development plan taking into account specific needs like their education, training, leisure and emotional needs.

3707 adolescent boys are now connected to positive peer groups, have challenged perceptions of manhood, identified and worked through their individual risks, created and implemented life plans and have strengthened relationships with adults, community and government.

Forced to drop out of school to stay at home to look after her younger siblings, Shabana, 15, was isolated and cut off from her peers, her life restricted to the tin walls of her house in Wadala, Mumbai. After joining Shakti, Shabana became aware of girls' rights and entitlements, and the dangers they faced from early marriage, violence, abuse and trafficking. Over a period of three months, she negotiated with her family to go back to afternoon school, and was connected to a girl safety network.

When she heard that her school friend Ashiana’s engagement was being arranged, she decided she couldn’t stand by and watch. The wedding proposal was from an older man in Uttar Pradesh, who was offering to bear all the expenses of the wedding. Shabana was concerned that her friend was not only being forced to marry before 18, but was also at risk of being trafficked under the guise of marriage. With nine girls from school and her Shakti circle, and one of the girls' mothers, Shabana persuaded Ashiana’s mother to cancel the engagement, and to start sending Ashiana for Shakti group meetings.

17 AND OVER: SABEENA’S STORY, MUMBAI
Married with child and abandoned by her husband, 17-year old Sabeena finds new hope, aspiration and the courage to negotiate with her parents to achieve her goals after joining Shakti girl safety network

Find out more: http://youtu.be/NtmRogrnUs0

BREAKING BAD: RAHUL’S STORY, BHOPAL
By finding a mentor and engaging in conversations to identify risk, 17-year old Rahul develops a sense of self identity, self protection and self respect after joining Chauraha boy safety network

Find out more: http://youtu.be/_M_BoYgbut0

PROACTIVE AND RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

414 government officials and key service providers, who have interacted with community adults, are accessible to community-based child protection workers and respond to information from the community.
Cooperation: Linking Communities to Government Systems & Welfare Services

By activating government systems and services, community members are supported to hold authorities accountable for ensuring that child protection mechanisms are functioning. This reduces the risk of children being cut off from the community and devoid of any network or support system—factors which exacerbate the risk of running away, trafficking and harm.

Education

Murshidabad, West Bengal, shares a border with Bangladesh and has been identified as one of three high-risk districts for trafficking in the UN’s District Human Development Report, 2009. It also has the highest incidence of kidnappings and abductions in the state, according to the National Crime Records Bureau - 579 cases in 2012 of which the majority 464 cases were of women and girls.

When PACT workers became aware that the Nazirchawk Primary School in Bhagwangola, Murshidabad, was not giving children the midday meal, they decided to flag the issue with the school. In the absence of the midday meal, they were worried about children dropping out of school, staying at home unsupervised, and at heightened risk of being trafficked. Isolated at home, they would be cut off from any safety network. The midday meal scheme of the Ministry of Human Resource Development was envisioned to ensure retention of children in school, along with seeing to their nutritional needs.

Following PACT meetings on the School Management Committee (SMC) in which its function in ensuring that key services are provided to children was discussed, PACT worker Jyostna Bibi decided to raise the issue with the school principal. With the support of other PACT workers, she met and advocated with the principal to start SMC meetings which were not taking place, and urged him to start providing the midday meal. Despite initial resistance, they maintained pressure through regular follow ups and 195 children attending the school are now staying in school and receiving the midday meal.
Health

Located in one of the most backward regions of the country, Chandauli has very few services (like schools and medical facilities), or employment opportunities. Most families here subsist on surrounding forests for their livelihood. Chandauli’s proximity to the borders of Bihar, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh also make it a transit point for trafficking, with agents luring families to send their children away on the pretext of getting them jobs. Sometimes, the lure is just a mobile phone. Entrenched poverty in conjunction with the absence of government social protection schemes puts children at heightened risk of being trafficked for labour or sex.

To increase access to government schemes and hold authorities accountable for child protection, PACT workers and Shakti activators raised the issue of erratic service provision at the anganwadi centre. A key service, the anganwadi provides health check ups, immunization and nutritional supplements to vulnerable women and children; so that children receive the critical early childhood care that they are entitled to.

PACT workers believed it was imperative to activate this service for the health and safety of women and children, who are often the most at risk in poor communities. This would ensure that families would not have to consider sending their children away to access this basic service.

PACT workers began advocating with the gram panchayat and the anganwadi supervisor for the anganwadi worker to conduct timely health checkups, and provide nutrition supplements to mothers. Through repeated follow-ups and by mobilizing the community, the anganwadi worker registered 90 children.

Police

An urban basti (slum) by the banks of the river Ganga in Varanasi, Rajghat comprises a largely migrant population from scheduled caste groups who work as manual scavengers or as daily wage workers. The community has historically had little or no responsiveness from the police - the first point of contact with the justice system. As a result, incidents of violence and abuse against children have largely gone unreported, with police often refusing to file a First Information Report (FIR).

Recognizing the importance of working with the police, PACT workers have been activating this critical group, inviting them for PACT parent meetings to facilitate dialogue between the police and community and having discussions on rights and laws.

As a result of these interactions, when PACT worker Anita heard that a young girl had been found lying unconscious by a pond, showing signs of physical and sexual abuse, and was not from their community, she turned to the police for help. She contacted the woman police officer she had interacted with through PACT.

When the girl gained consciousness, she told them she was 16 years old, and had run away with a 27-year old man from her community. She had been promised marriage, but was abandoned by him. Anita and the police officer reassured her that she should go home, and that they would speak to her family first. They contacted the girl’s family, who were glad to have news of their daughter. They arrived the next day and took her back home.

Labour

Bharlai adjoins the Shivpuri railway station on one side and is located just off the highway to Varanasi. Due to the proximity of the community to highway and station, the majority of children engage in loading and unloading trucks and goods trains. Most children drop out of school after completing their primary education. At the monthly meeting with community adults and through the PACT workers’ weekly meeting, this was identified as a protection issue.

PACT workers approached the District Development Officer, and were introduced to an officer of the Literacy Mission who came to the community for a meeting. A list of 150 children was shared with the officer and 25 children have been given books and study material. The aim of this mission is to provide functional literacy to those in the 15-35 age group. PACT workers and Shakti activators also approached the Principal of the neighborhood St Joseph’s school, and 50 children who work at the railway station lifting coal and clearing garbage have been enrolled in school.

Anti Human-Trafficking Unit

In Kazzakpura, Varanasi, children are engaged in the hazardous work of sorting through garbage at one of the biggest dumping grounds in the city. Others drop out of school to start working on power looms from the age of 7 or 8. The nature of work, lack of opportunity and proximity of the community to a national highway and major railway station has resulted in children being coerced to run away in the hope of better employment.

To build a safety net and address the issue of high numbers of missing children PACT workers held a Community Help Desk on Operation Smile - a month-long campaign to trace missing children conducted by the Uttar Pradesh police from January 1-31. PACT workers compiled a list of 69 children from the community - those reported missing, orphans, children living on the street, working as rag pickers or involved in begging - and the details were shared with the police.

By working with the police on this central government initiative, PACT workers hope that missing children who are vulnerable to situations like abuse, exploitation, child labour and trafficking will be traced, rescued and rehabilitated.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Rs</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Rs</th>
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<tr>
<td>To Expenditure in respect of properties</td>
<td></td>
<td>By Rent (Accrued / Realised)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rates, Taxes, Cesses</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>24,63,400</td>
<td>By Interest (Accrued / Realised)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
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<td>on Bank Account - SB</td>
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<tr>
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<td>on Bank Account - FD</td>
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<td>Establishment Expenses</td>
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<td>To Remuneration to Trustees</td>
<td>24,63,400</td>
<td>By Donation in Cash or Kind</td>
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<td>To Legal Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>To Insurance</td>
<td>33,353</td>
<td>From Individuals &amp; Others</td>
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<tr>
<td>To Administration Expenses</td>
<td>3,88,464</td>
<td>By Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>To Expenditure on Objects of the trust</td>
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<td>By Income from Other Sources</td>
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<td>(a) Religious</td>
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<td>By Transfer from Reserve</td>
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<tr>
<td>(b) Educational</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>(c) Medical Relief</td>
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<td>By Surplus carried over to B/S</td>
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<td>(d) Relief of Poverty</td>
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<tr>
<td>(e) Other Charitable Objects</td>
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<td>To Surplus carried over to B/S</td>
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<td>3,73,67,722</td>
<td>Total Rs.</td>
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LEGAL COMPLIANCE AND EXTERNAL AUDITING

Aangan Trust is registered as a not-for-profit Trust with the Charity Commissioner, Greater Bombay Region, Reg. No. E 18695, dated September 29, 2000.

Other registrations are:


Aangan Trust’s Income Tax Permanent Account Number (PAN) is AAATT5502G.

Aangan Trust is registered under section 6 (1) (a) of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 (FCRA Registration No. 083781091) and hence is entitled to also get donations from abroad.

Aangan Trust operates 6 Bank Accounts with HDFC Bank Ltd., Sandoz House Branch Worli, Mumbai. The Bank account in which Foreign Currency funds are received is also with HDFC Bank, Sandoz House Branch, Worli, Mumbai.

ACCOUNTING PRACTICES AND EXTERNAL AUDITING

Aangan has a dedicated accountant running daily operations and supporting the budgeting process together with the Trustees. The cash-flow of the organization is managed on a monthly basis. The accounting software used is Tally ERP version 9.

R.P. Shah and Co. (304 Tardeo AC Market, Tardeo, Mumbai 400 034) are our statutory auditors. These external auditors check the cash flow quarterly and conduct a detailed financial auditing procedure at financial year’s end.
In 2002, Suparna founded Aangan with the commitment to protecting the most excluded, isolated, vulnerable groups of children. In 2006, she developed a unique model to partner with state governments across the country making Aangan the first non-profit to access hundreds of state-run institutional facilities for rescued, trafficked and other vulnerable children all over India. In 2009, Suparna extended the organisation’s work to identify children in dangerous situations with a view to preventing occurrence and recurrence of serious child harm. By 2014, this had been developed into an integrated model for child harm prevention and is currently implemented in 39 locations across the country.

Suparna’s work has been recognised worldwide – she was awarded the prestigious international Ashoka fellowship for leading social entrepreneurs (2009), selected an Asia 21 Young Leader (2011), finalist for the Trust Women’s Hero Award by Thomson Reuters Foundation (2012) and the Edward B. Mason Fellowship from Harvard Kennedy School of Government (2012-2013).

Atiya has worked with marginalized populations both in the US and India, on securing human rights, focusing on access to justice and opportunity. Prior to joining Aangan in 2007, Atiya worked in the criminal justice system in Los Angeles, California, as a sentence mitigation specialist advocating for rehabilitative sentences for women, youth and immigrant defendants. At Aangan, Atiya works with our community prevention model, which aims to prevent child trafficking and serious harm. It is being demonstrated with the aim of state adoption in three to five years - currently in 39 hotspots across six states, of which 23 locations are associated more specifically with sex-trafficking.

Atiya’s policy advocacy work includes serving on various committees on issues related to children’s rights and protection. In 2009 she led Aangan’s partnership with UNICEF in the creation of a Standards of Care Tool for children’s institutions in the juvenile justice system. Her research and publications include studies of probation in India and due process within the juvenile justice system. She has presented her work at numerous conferences on topics such as juvenile justice standards of care and community rehabilitation programs for young offenders.

Chaitali graduated from Sophia College with an undergraduate degree in Psychology and Political Science. She then pursued her post-graduate diploma at the University of Edinburgh and has a Masters in the Management of Training and Development. She has been involved in the development sector since 2000 with organisations like the Akanksha Foundation and Teach for India. Her work has largely been around teacher training, general operations and leading expansion and growth for the organisations.

Chaitali heads Operations at Aangan. She is responsible for the smooth day-to-day running of the organisation and ensures that the strategic vision and operational outcomes are achieved. In conjunction with the National Coordinators, she supports the implementation of all programs across states and sets systems and processes to capture the quantitative and qualitative impact of our work. She is further responsible for setting long term and short term goals for staff members and works with them to ensure that they are met.
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THANK YOU

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