

Annual Report
2020-21

SUPPORT

Society Undertaking Poor People's Onus For Rehabilitation
(Regn No. E-10336 Mumbai)



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CONTENT

Acknowledgments

[Chapter – 1](#): Understanding Drug Addiction and street life ...

[Chapter – 2](#): Role of SUPPORT NGO ...

[Chapter – 3](#): Our journey begins...Outreach and Day Care Centre

[Chapter – 4](#): Medical Programme ...

[Chapter – 5](#): Awakening Transformation...Treating the whole person...

[Chapter – 6](#): *Residential Rehabilitation Program for Children*

[Chapter – 7](#): *Residential Rehabilitation Program for Youth.....*

[Chapter – 8](#): *Group sessions and meetings:*

[Chapter – 9](#): Recreation and Entertainment.....

[Chapter – 10](#): Repatriation/Reunification.....

[Chapter – 11](#): Acknowledgement

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SUPPORT takes this opportunity of extending appreciation and gratitude to several Individuals, Groups, Corporates, Donor Agencies and our Staff for their endeavours to assist our children and youth undergoing long term residential rehabilitation program.

Individuals and Groups have magnanimously donated in cash and kind towards the restoration and welfare of our children and youth throughout the year, which was simply commendable. They have also sponsored meals, snacks and fruits to them from time to time; on special/auspicious occasions and even otherwise. They have also donated toiletries, medicines, grains & clothes which have been an enormous help in taking care of children/youth during the year.

Corporates & Donor Agencies have financially supported our major projects for the children and youth; some for several years; which has enabled SUPPORT to provide several basic facilities to the children and youth in course of time; like Day Care & Outreach, Detoxification & Rehabilitation Programs, Education, Recreation/Entertainment, Medical Care and Health Services, Vocational Skills Training, Job Placements, Social Rehabilitation of Youth in Group Homes after they are employed, Conducting Marriage of Youth [Girls & Boys] and settling them in their married life; in the true sense Social Integration and Mainstream, which is SUPPORT's ultimate goal.

SUPPORT also gladly acknowledges the recognition received from the Juvenile Justice Board [JJB] and the Child Welfare Committee [CWC] for our contribution towards working with substance using street children and homeless youth. The JJB and CWC have continued their referrals of adolescents in conflict with law under influence of drugs and street for the Transformation Program; and substance using street children for long term residential rehabilitation program. Initially we worked with the Maharashtra Juvenile Justice Board, Thane District to rehabilitate children/youth of CCL (Children in Conflict with Law).

Implementation of all these essential activities was possible for SUPPORT with the support, help and guidance over time from Individuals, Groups, Corporates & Donor Agencies who have been consistent in their generous donations [cash and kind] and our Staff; who have worked with determination, sincerity and persistence.

We extend our special gratitude to all the wonderful volunteers [individuals and those from the Corporates], for contributing their precious time in exposing our children to something novel and spreading so much joy and warmth.

We truly thank all the people who help us with the CORONA outbreak. Because of your cooperation in such a difficult situation, we were able to take care of the children successfully.

Chapter - 1

UNDERSTANDING DRUG ADDICTION AND STREET LIFE...

Street and life on the street poses an 'enigma' to numerous individuals who perceive it only as a means to commute to reach from one destination to another. Although it may sound and seem simple that street is meant for commuting, there are innumerable interesting and gory nuances to it that needs to be explored and understood. It would then be explicit on the various influences it has on individuals and specially children who are on the street for longer duration. Street is the most happening place with all its hussle-bussle; different sounds, voices, movement and a mysterious under current. Street has its own dynamics with an obnoxious lifestyle, culture, language and script. Overtime individuals on the street begin to look distinct being assimilated in the covers of the street environment.

Current trend on the street as observed is changing over a period of time. Children who had once run away from their homes when they were younger and were absorbed on the street have started families. This has increased the number of children born to such individuals on the street which is gradually augmented. Sometimes there are second or even third generations languishing on the street. These circumstances have given rise to frustrations culminating into using addictive substances to dampen unpleasant moments of failures in life. Moreover, they are perceived as human wastes on the street for not engaging in constructive work and contributing effectively to society. They are shunned by general public and police. Hence, they resort to all kinds of anti-social activities to sustain their addiction, assert their power and survive on the street.

Street is the only 'home' for myriads of young children born and brought up there; where the concept of home with roof and four walls is almost non-existent. Motherhood is a reality but fatherhood is questionable on the street. Children are familiar with their mothers but most often are unaware or even confused about their father. Concept of a family unit is ambiguous, almost momentary and undefined. It is observed, whenever there are street quarrels individuals' herd together as a family to assert and raise their voices; thereafter they disperse. Individuals in a family exist like '*islands*' where there are no emotional, psychological and physical linkages or bonding; and each of them use each other to satiate their individual needs and eventually meet their ulterior motives. In such situations, children are affected to a large extent as there is nobody to care and protect them and they are compelled to fend for themselves. Children thus, become lonely and are steadily isolated.

Families live out of 'bundles' or 'potlies' on a day-to-day basis, with limited belongings comprising of clothes and few utensils, which is easy to move during change of places from one street or area to another, whenever necessary. They have meagre means and live amidst

immense depravity, disappointment and hopelessness; often manifesting in exploiting vulnerable segments on the street.

Children are often shuttled between the adult members who use them as commodities. Often they are forced into begging, working on daily wages in small eateries/tea shops, sweeping in trains, carrying luggage etc. and the earnings are squandered by the parents on their addiction. Parents on the street are not the ideal role models for children; resulting in them not receiving social values and normal lifestyle.

These children emulate their parents in using addictive substances, in habits, attitudes, and behavior and thought process. There is an enormous depravity, abuse, neglect, isolation, drug usage, stress and insecurity among children who are raised on the street. It would not be incorrect to state substance using street children is the most poor and marginalized section among the children population.

When a vast majority of children are seen attending school, playing, well nourished, enjoying a normal childhood; it does not reach the substance using street children. Instead, they are struggling to survive on the peripheries of society and not live. These children have weak coping capacity and have tendencies to flee from situation(s) and person(s) whenever they cannot manage. Bohemian lifestyle is what is noticed wherein they change and become disoriented, fragmented, paucity of concentration, unstable, inability to sit in one place, irritable, restless and develop personality defects the longer they spend on the street. Appropriate points of reference in life are missing and it further isolates from the social milieu; thus bringing them back from a bizarre lifestyle to the mainstream is a challenge.

People existing on the street...



Chapter - 2

ROLE OF SUPPORT NGO...

SUPPORT is a registered Non-Governmental Organization focusing upon transformation of substance using street children and homeless youth into productive members of society for almost three decades.

The organization targets children in the age group of 6-17 years and youth from 18-25 years.

Addiction is a chronic condition, but it can be treated and controlled. Our rehabilitation programmes are long term and provided in a residential set up. Our journey begins when we pick up the children and youth from the street and gradually reach them to their destination of economic independence of a dignified life. It is a long journey undertaken by SUPPORT and its dedicated team. It is a fight against addiction wherein we need to treat the whole person as the addiction has spread into all arenas of his personality like a disease.

Vision:

SUPPORT aims to eradicate substance use among street children and homeless youth to prevent high-risk behaviour.

Mission:

To encourage street children and homeless youth to give up their drug habit and reduce risk behaviour through a process of Detoxification, Rehabilitation and Mainstreaming.

Our Goals:

1. De-addiction

- Awareness / Detoxification through medical treatment.
- Reduce the stress and anxiety caused by street life / HIV.

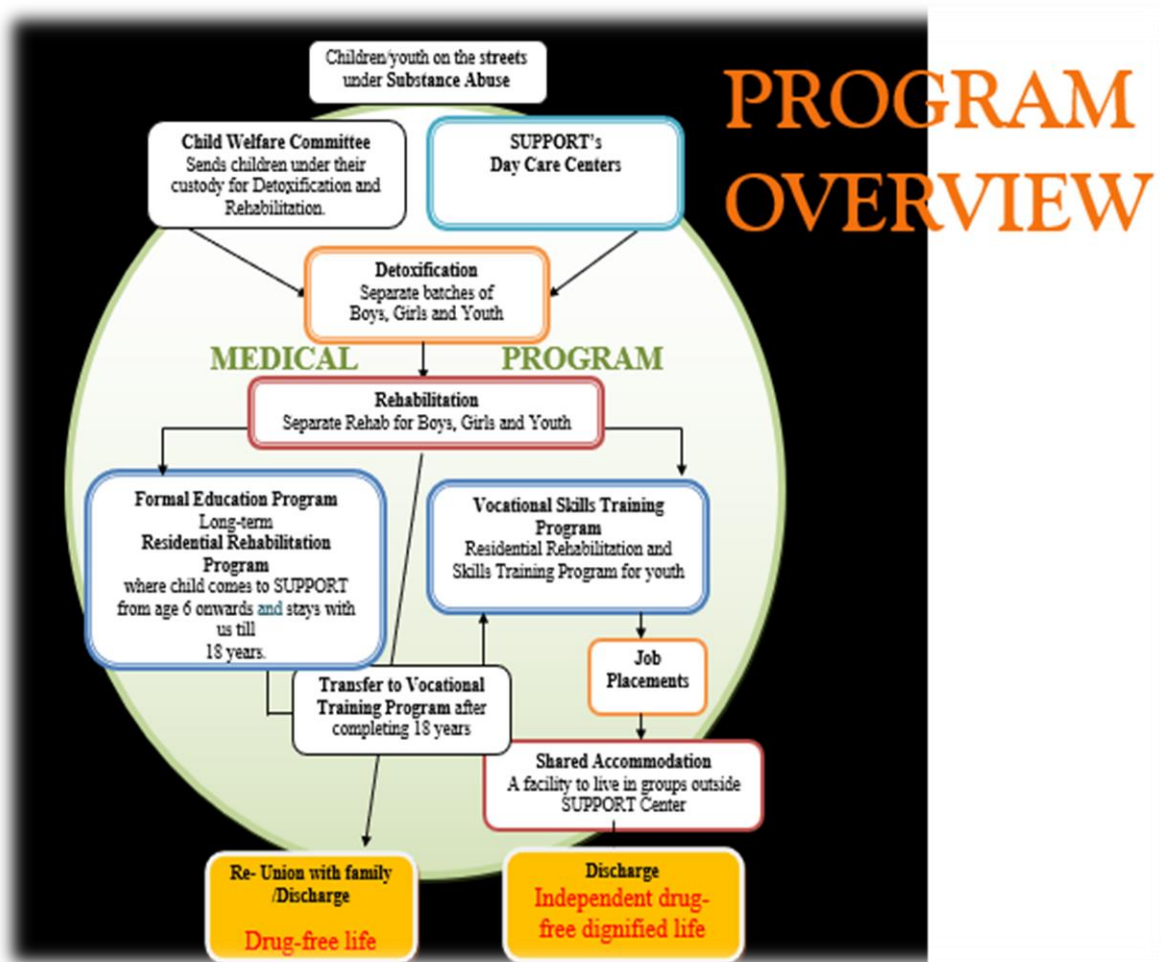
- Improve physical and mental condition through nutrition, hygiene and awareness program.

2. Education

- Enrolment of children into regular schools.
- Vocational training for productive jobs in society

3. Repatriation

- Unite runaway street children with their families, where possible and job placement, after successful completion of education/ vocational training.



Chapter - 3

OUR JOURNEY BEGINS...OUTREACH AND DAY CARE CENTRE

Reaching out to substance using children and youth.....

The Outreach team of SUPPORT works directly on the streets to connect and build relationships with children, youth and their families who are living on the streets. The team provides counselling to these children and youth. Over time they are motivated to visit our Day Care Centres, so that they can avail of the facilities there. We have Day Care Centre. The programmes in Day Care Centres are designed and planned in a way to sustain the interest and attention of the addicts for longer duration. Emphasis of the program is primarily upon indoor recreation [watching TV, indoor games, listening to music etc.], life skills education, awareness on common street diseases, regular medical check-ups, hospital referrals/follow-up, distribution of medicines, bathing and washing facility, referrals to other NGOs and liaising with police, CWC and other functionaries. The Day Care functions as a non-residential centre; where the addicts come during the day time and return to the street in the evening. However, it is an important 'contact point' for the addicts with the organization.

Day Care is perceived as the 'window' that opens new avenues towards opportunities in the mainstream. Here, they are gradually motivated for the detoxification treatment and to bring about changes in their lives. Over 434 children and youth were contacted through our day care centre during the year.

Day Care Center:

CST Care Center: SUPPORT

Opposite VT (CST) Railway Station

Dadabhai Nawroji Road,

Fort (West), Mumbai- 400-001. (Maharashtra) India.

Table – 1: SUPPORT’s reach out at the Day Care Centres:

No. of Children/Youth availing services	No. of Children/Youth referred to SUPPORT [Detox]	No. of Children/Youth referred to Hospitals	No. of Children/Youth attending NFE & LSE Classes
434	50	50	

**These are consolidated average figures for the year. Duplication may occur in Hospital referrals due to multiple referrals/follow up.*

DAY CARE ACTIVITIES :

Name & description of the activity	Beneficiary Count
<i>Food distribution in community and Street Peoples during the lockdown period.</i>	6109 poor people

✓ **Providing food during COVID-19 lockdown period: -**

During COVID-19 lockdown period, food was distributed to the needy people on behalf of SUPPORT.



✓ **Outreach:** During the year, SUPPORT had reached out to **434** children/youth who had attended the Day Care and participated in the activities and availed of the services. SUPPORT had established contacts with **434** children/youth [**344** old & **90** new] on the street through its outreach activities.

- SUPPORT staff seeks out drug using children/youth that are on the streets.
- Children/youth are encouraged and motivated to come to the center.

Beneficiary count (children/youth):

No of street children reached out to through 1-1 interactions: 434

No of children mobilized for Detox through outreach: 50





Indoor Games



Dance Programme



Meal for the Children

Chapter - 4

MEDICAL PROGRAMME ...

Street life and poor health are inseparably linked. Deprivation of food, shelter, hygiene/sanitation, social exclusion, lack of education and unemployment, all together reduces opportunities and limit the choices of healthy life. Conditions on the streets put more burden on groups such as gender, children, ill and disabled. They are far off from the availability and accessibility of resources and services that are made available for financially weaker section.

Their unhinged lifestyles with lack of medical/health care and bizarre living situations amplifies their vulnerability to constant illness like respiratory/ear infections, gastro intestinal ailments, sexually transmitted diseases, skin/abdominal problems etc. Children on the street find various ways to combat hunger pangs, some scavenge, and several are in the clutches of exploitative physical work. Moreover, quite a few children/youths are drawn in by callous adults into peddling drugs, stealing and sex work. Continuous existence on the street is complex with the use of harder addictive substance; harming and influencing the brain, their cognitive abilities to learn and also brings about significant changes in their personalities. Children/youth constantly found in an intoxicated state find it difficult to avail or access the existing medical facilities.

Detoxification (Detox) is an essentially inevitable treatment that addicts require to undergo, when they decide to turn over a new leaf. Detox is a 21 to 28 days process that focuses upon removing the toxins that gathers in the body due to multiple addictive substances used over a period of time. It is carried out with the help of trained and experienced Doctor and medical staff. Doctor, Medical Staff and management of SUPPORT work in unison once it's planned and executed.

Children/youth bring along with them innumerable health problems during detox, which may have been neglected on the street. As part of detox, all children/youth are advised by the Doctor for routine pathological investigations. This helps to rule out any major contagious diseases that they may be suffering from and requires immediate attention and treatment. All the ailments are then treated along with the detox.

Table – 2: Information on Detoxification Camps organized:

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Boys	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Girls	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Youth	-	-	-	-	-	09	07	-	16	13	03	02	50

Table – 3: Overview of Substances used by children/youth on street prior to detox:

	Alcohol Beer Toddy	Cigarette Bidi	Pan Supari	Gutka Tabacco	Ganja Marijuana	Brown Sugar	Solution MD	Charas/ Hashish	Butto n	Bhang Syrup	Opium (Afim)
Youth	54	104	37	107	62	16	40	20	19	13	2
Boys	4	5	3	4	3	1	8	2	1	0	0
Girls	0	0	10	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

* Duplication in figures occurs due to multiple use of addictive substances.

Medical team has always been busy during the year. Some of the projections of their work are reflected through the tables below.

Table – 4: Overview of the Referral Services to Hospitals in the Residential Program:

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Boys	1	19	10	01	03	7	4	11	6	14	6	9	91
Girls	0	3	0	1	1	1	4	2	4	8	10	2	36
Youth	2	0	0	1	2	2	6	1	2	6	6	6	32

* Duplication in figures occurs due to multiple referrals and visits during the year.

Table – 5: Consolidated Information on Diagnosed Test:

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Boys	0	0	3	5	91	2	4	100	11	9	4	8	237
Girls	0	0	18	62	24	58	0	60	4	4	9	4	243
Youth	0	0	0	1	8	12	16	14	2	13	10	10	86

* These are consolidated figures for the year. Duplication in figures occurs due to multiple ailments and multiple consultations/follow-up treatment.

	Boys	Girls	Youth	Total
No of Children provided with Supplementary Nutrition	296	492	24	812
No of Cases Diagnosed and treated in house	698	416	465	1579
No of Cases refer to Hospital	101	36	34	171
No of Medical Session	28	28	1	57
No of Children Medicated for Chronic ailments	24	12	0	36

Some photographs of programs by the Medical center...





During COVID-19
situation Centre
Sanitization work
done by Medical team
through BMC.



Our Doctor
conducting
group session
with girls.

Chapter - 5

AWAKENING TRANSFORMATION...TREATING THE WHOLE PERSON...

Drug abuse is a pervasive and debilitating problem among street children and youth. Street children lack security, protection, hope, and most of all, love. They face a deep-rooted negative stigma about being a homeless addict. Their unstable lives and their stigma perpetuate gross violation of basic human rights. This has tremendous negative impact on their psyche. Also, addiction is like a chronic disease and even after Detox, the journey is not easy for hard core ex addicts because they will need to control their addiction for the rest of their life. It is extremely important to impress upon them that for the rehabilitation to work, it has to be a complete transformation of their personality. This transformation is not only external but also an internal change in thought process, attitude and habits. No amount of education or vocational training will be of significance if this transformation is not complete. Hence group transformation sessions are an integral part of our program and form the crux of successful rehabilitation.

Our transformation program is based on FLUTE Methodology. This in house developed methodology has evolved through SUPPORT's years of experience in the field of de-addiction.

FLUTE Methodology.....

Freedom, Listening, Understanding, Transformation & Enjoyment

FLUTE brings about five distinct outcomes:

*I should be **Free** from drugs.*

*I will **Listen** to positive voices.*

*I **Understand** I can change.*

*I can **Transform** failure to success.*

*I will **Enjoy** my day.*

Freedom – Understanding the real meaning of freedom and boundaries to the addict.

Listening – Listening and understanding the instructions of the person who helps.

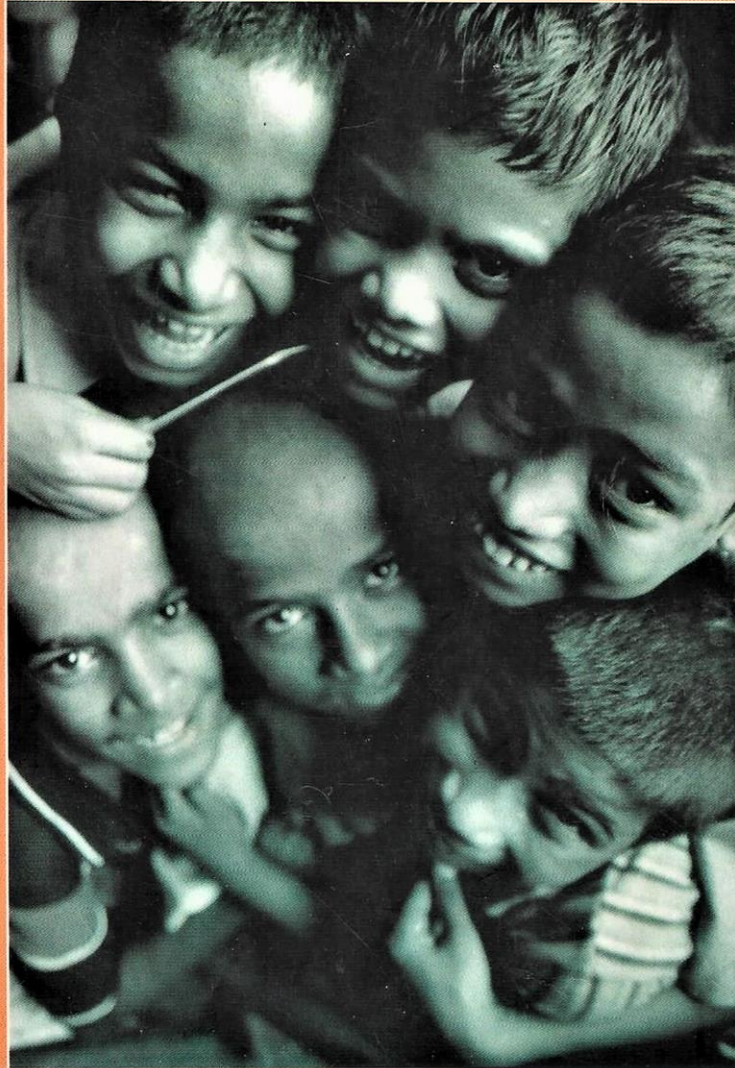
Understanding – Convince the addict that quitting drugs and street is possible.

Transformation – Changing behaviours and attitudes relating to drugs and street life that addict carries within himself.

Enjoyment – Anyone can enjoy every moment of life without taking risk. Children and youth are admitted into our Long Term Residential Rehabilitation Programme.

FLUTE

freedom, listening, understanding, transformation and enjoyment



Chapter – 6

RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

Once the three weeks of detoxification is over children/youth are required to undergo long term residential rehabilitation program. The transition period is a trial for children/youth who find themselves trapped in the closure. When drugs ceases it creates a vacuum that results in disorientation, fragmentation, apprehension, agitation, restlessness and confusion. All this makes it difficult for them to cope considering the new place that is filled with strange children and noise, adds to the inner upheaval and insecurity. This is manifested in various ways among children making it difficult for the children and staff. The staff deals with the situation by relaxing all the rules for a short time till they are used to the new environment and settle down at the center.

Staff plans regular activities to engage children and keep them occupied and also divert their young minds. By participating in the activities they slowly learn to complete assigned tasks at a stipulated time, by sitting in one place and concentrating. Staff over a period of time has developed patience and diligence to motivate and encourage the children to complete the assigned activity.



Table – 6: Overview of Children in the Rehabilitation Centres:

Description	Boys Centre	Girls Centre	Total
No of Children at the beginning of the Year	93	64	157
No of New Admission in the Year	05	00	05
Total Admission	98	64	162
No of Children Discharged/Repatriation	06	08	14
Transfer to SUPPORT – Vocational Training	00	00	00
No of Children - Ngo referral	01	06	07
No of Children Runaway	00	00	00
End of the year Under Programme	91	55	146

Group Session / Life Skill Education



Before sending to school the children participated in group sessions and are encouraged by other children to take part in the various activities at the centre often, the children share their past life in the group. Prayers and the Pledge to give up drugs are also part of the sessions.



The children doing P.T. in the centre



The photograph shows the older children sharing their experiences with new children, to increase their motivation to stay at the centre.

As of the girls and boys were addicted to drugs and involved in odd jobs on the street, it is a challenge for us to keep them away from their previous habits as well as make them feel at home. We provide them all the basic needs such as good food, clothes, education and recreation. But more importantly, values are taught by the different group sessions, which is one of the main thrust of our transformation programme.

Non Formal Education [NFE]:

NFE is the first step to acquiring an orientation towards academics. Numerous children that come from the street are 'first generation learners' and this is the first time they are being encouraged to learn, read and write. It is here that children learn to hold a pencil and actually write and learn to sit at a place in order to complete the task assigned. The main emphasis of the NFE is basically to introduce alphabets, colors, numbers, shapes etc.

Children begin to enjoy what the teacher teaches them and require attention and reassurance from time to time. As noticed teachers stroke them at different times to push them ahead with learning and at the same time prepares them for school.

Formal Education [FE]:

A major thrust of SUPPORT is to mainstream children/youth once they complete rehabilitation program and one of the best way is through education and vocational skills training. Education provides a definite purpose in their lives, apart from which opens up innumerable opportunities.

Children are enrolled into Government run schools in the vicinity. They are then admitted to age appropriate standards at schools. By this method, children are compelled to work doubly hard by coping with new experiences at schools. SUPPORT offers in-house coaching class facilities under the Education program for the school going children. Teachers revise the portions taught in schools and guide children to complete their daily homework. Weaker children receive extra attention by the teachers. The Education Team [Education Consultant & Teachers] attend PTA meetings, Open day for parents, Annual day functions and information impartation sessions for parents. This enables the team to be in contact with the schools and arrive at keeping in track of children's academic progress, participation in extracurricular activities and general behavior.

In-house coaching classes are in progress during short
long vacations to keep them academically connected.

and



SUPPORT Teacher with girls



SUPPORT Teacher with Boys

Academic Activities

Currently we have 135 school going children under our rehabilitation program.

The academic activities are as follows:

- A basic academic skill program was conducted for all the children in their summer vacation under the guidance of the teachers. The focus of this initiative was on strengthening the basics of reading, writing, arithmetic and basic concept formation. Basic academic skills were taught to them using educational material and different teaching strategies like multisensory approach, Montessori strategies, play way etc in consultation with the educational consultant.
- The in-house coaching class teachers help the children to learn the subject content taught in their school. Various teaching strategies such as role play method, oral presentations of content by students, enacting, Montessori techniques etc. are used to make learning fun, interesting and long term.

Education facilities and In- house coaching

Sr. No	Description	Boys Centre	Girls Centre	Total
01	No of children availing NFE facility in the Centre	00	26	26
02	No of children undergoing formal schooling	82	53	135
03	No of children availing in house coaching class facility	82	56	138
04	No of children will completing grade 10 (ssc exam) successfully	00	00	00

- Asian Paint Pvt. Ltd. Company has provided our institutions with a total of 68 tabs and 20 desktops for children’s education, enabling us to successfully teach children online in the difficult conditions of Covid 19.

The children started working during the holidays to gain experience in their field.

Photographs of in-house coaching classes...



Most children have spent their lives on the street and are above their normal age. Efforts are therefore made to help ease the pressure through the in house coaching classes. It also enables them to be comfortable and habitual in concentrating and sitting at one place for a period of time, as they were totally out of this habit while living on the streets.

Chapter - 7

RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM FOR YOUTH.....

This program entails achievement of economic rehabilitation through vocational training for the youth above 18 years of age. Just like how children up to 18 years of age follow the formal education pathway to successful inclusion into society, the youth above 18 years of age are encouraged to go through the vocational skills training to achieve drugs free and economic independence.

Economic self-reliance is the foundation for lasting behavioral change. Unless the youngsters are taken off the streets and provided an alternate lifestyle, it is not possible to bring them out of their high risk lifestyle. As most of them are runaways at a very young age, they have neither the education nor other skills to sustain them. The habits and skills that they developed or adopted on the street were for basic survival and at high risk to themselves. To get them into the mainstream of society, which is the ultimate objective of SUPPORT, there is a dire need to get these youth trained in some vocation. This enables them to earn their livelihood honestly and safely.

SUPPORT offers seven basic Vocational Skills Training Courses for the youth. They are carpentry, welding, Wireman and Peer Educators Training.

This year 116 youth were enrolled into our Vocational Training Program. This intensive training encompasses not only the skills needed to achieve mastery in their chosen vocation but also aims to develop the mindset and attitude to carry this training into their professional life in the mainstream society. We also at times send the youth to Centres outside SUPPORT for training.

Subsequently, on completion of their training, our staff places them on jobs with private companies. The youth may continue to stay at SUPPORT like a half way home, where he is provided with dinner and a place to sleep at nights. This year we had 20 youth who stayed at SUPPORT like a half way home. Some youth may even share an accommodation with other employed youth outside SUPPORT. This obviously means more responsibility and makes them more independent. There was only one youth who worked and stayed outside SUPPORT this

year. The youth are encouraged to save for the future once they start to earn. SUPPORT's staff, however, continues to guide and support the youth till such time the youth needs it.

We were also able to successfully discharge 16 youth from SUPPORT as they had completed their rehabilitation programme, had taken up jobs and were independent. It is indeed a proud moment for us when these youth are finally capable of being completely mainstreamed.

Table 10: Youth Beneficiaries at Mumbai:

Description	Numbers
Total No. of Youth (Beneficiaries)	116
NGO Referral	00
Repatriation at Home	16
Job Placement / Discharge/Group Home	45
Runaway	00
At present Under Vocational Training Programme	55

Group/Individuals Sessions:

Group and Individual sessions provide the youth with the opportunity to share about themselves and some of the personal issues are discussed in the individual sessions. Purpose of these sessions is not to isolate and discriminate, but to make them realize that all present in the group have similar issues/experiences, and it is a universal issue, and all are addicts having a common thread between them.

Individual sessions are intense as it addresses individual issues of the youth relating to their behavior, attitudes, habits and thought process. Along with the youth staff helps him identify and express on the pressing issue and work out ways to resolve it without disturbing the equilibrium of the center. Youth in the bargain get leads on areas they are required to work out which is monitored by the staff.

Life Skills Education [LSE]:

LSE sessions are derived and centered on the FLUTE methodology which focuses upon transforming old behavior and script of the street to the socially accepted patterns. These are interactive sessions eliciting responses from the youth. LSE sessions help the youth to bring about considerable changes in their behavior which enables them to get in touch with different facets of their personalities. Once again youth begin to re-learn social values and etiquettes which had vanished on the street.

LSE sessions bring back the essence of the mainstream by playing a pivotal role in shaping the youth. Transformation process teaches the youth accepted behavior for the social milieu. Sessions in small groups where they are made aware of the social environment considering the fact these youth have no back drop of any social references.

Details of Vocational Technical Training :

Table 11: Youth Beneficiaries underwent Vocational Skills Training:

Total No. of Youth in Skills Training 89 youth	Total Coverage
Welding	23
Carpentry	26
Wireman	36
Tailoring	04
Training Programme Completed	52
Training Programme Incomplete	01
Now Under Going Training	36
Total No. of Youth	89

- In this year we arranged job for 51 youth.



Welding



Carpentry



Electrician Course

Technical Training in Government Institutes:

Youth have been in SUPPORT for a long time and have completed education up to 10th standard are motivated to undertake job-oriented courses in Government run institutions. This brings them to a different exposure with other students along with coping with the selected course.

Peer Educators' Training:

Youth is selected on the basis of completion of detox and rehab programs at SUPPORT where there is definite changes in the behavior. They are the "role models" in the rehab centers encouraging and motivating the children to complete rehab. They share their personal experiences and journeys from the street to becoming a Peer Educator, which is always overwhelming and indeed inspiring. Center staff assigns them specific tasks at the centers which they are expected to fulfill for which they are paid a nominal monthly stipend. Carrying different tasks at the centers exposes them to a modest range of work. At the same time they are encouraged to save their monthly stipend for the future. Staff at the center supervises and monitors their work and provide regular feedback to them. Monthly meetings are important platform for review and discuss their monthly work, it enables the youth to improve on their behavior and adjust to the work assigned to them. Moreover, they get used to working in a certain time frame and also maintaining certain discipline.

This training for the youth is necessary providing them with the hands-on experience of executing various tasks at the centres. Youth is involved in daily chores fruitfully in the centres, enabling them to build upon the self-confidence and self-esteem. Furthermore, a few aspire to become staff at SUPPORT in due course of time.

The peer Educators (Boys group) from the different states, living together like a family. The staff in the picture is mentor of these boys, who show them path of ' Drug free life'.



Vocational Group
with SUPPORT
staff



Job Placements:

Concept of job placement is incorporated with the vocational skills training program for the youth. In the mainstream acquiring skills is essential to be able to make a choice about the kind the job. On the street this was never a prerogative; children/youth took up any job that came their way on daily wages. They have never thought for the future, being addicts their survival has been moment to moment. Learning skills would definitely enhance their opportunities of procuring suitable jobs in the mainstream. SUPPORT staff liaison with private/service-oriented companies wherein the youth is placed on job according to their interest and suitability. Placing the youth on job outside the center is good experience and exposure for most of the youth.

SR No.	Names of Youth	Nature of Work	Salary (per month)
1	Didasu Bharsakade	As a helper wireman	12000/-
2	Shankar Sarode	As a helper Carpenter	8000/-
3	Arjun Gupta	House Keeper	8500/-
4	Tanay Manjhi	House Keeper	8500/-
5	Akash Mahato	As a helper Carpenter	5000/- RESIDENTIAL
6	Krishna Rajput	Wiremen Helper	6000/-
7	Arbaaz sheikh	As a Helper welder	5000/- RESIDENTIAL
8	Amit Das	As a house Keeping	11300/-
9	Shyam Sanu Sharma	As a helper wirman	6000/-
10	Ashok Bipin Yadav	As a helper wireman	6000/-
11	Salim abdul sheikh	As a helper welder	5000/- RESIDENTIAL
12	Chhotu Munna thakur	As a helper welder	5000/- RESIDENTIAL
13	Sainath Koli	As a Helper carpenter	5000/-
14	Rajesh Waze	As a Helper wireman	5000/-
15	Shrinivas Narsivha	As a helper wireman	5000/-
16	Raju Mintu Singh	As a helper wireman	6500/-
17	Munnesh Bhavar	As a helper carpenter	5000/-
18	Saddam Shaikh	As a helper welder	8000/
19	Arjun Jaat	As a helper welder	10000/
20	Omprakash teju ray	As a helper Tailoring	10,000/-
21	Asif laal Ansari	As a helper welder	5000/
22	Manish samara pande	As a helper wireman	6000/
23	Sonu sadhu Yadav	As a helper carpenter	5000/
24	Ganesh Vishwakarma	As a helper wireman	8000/
25	Mohan bandhu choudhari	As a helper Tailoring	8000/
26	Mani Rajendra prasad	As a helper wireman	7000/
27	Vikas omkar Upadhyay	As a helper carpenter	6000/
28	Suresh vadari	As a helper carpenter	5000/
29	Sakib khan	As a helper welder	5000/

30	Manoj pavani singh	As a helper welder	6000/
31	Salim sher ali khan	As a helper wireman	5000/
32	Akshay	As a helper Tailoring	6000/
33	Amjad Khan	As a helper carpenter	6000/
34	Anil Patel	As a helper Tailoring	6000/

Group Homes (Shared Accommodation):

Once the youth commences working outside the center their behavior is under observation and monitored by the staff with the help of the employers. In the early stages of employment the youth continues to reside at the center. They attend their jobs during the day time and return to the center for sleepover, dinner and interactions with other youth for a stipulated period of 2-3 months. “Half way homes” is what it is referred at SUPPORT. After settling in the jobs the youth is motivated to shift into shared accommodation with 4-5 employed youth; which is referred as “Group Home” that comprises of a single rented room. They begin to share the daily household chores and monthly expenses. Staff continues to maintain contact with them and monitors on how they are coping with personal and professional lives. Monthly meetings and home visits are ways to keep contact and extending assistance to them and sometimes help in resolving person issues. When there is sense of belongingness and personal contacts life becomes easier to live and move



Chapter – 8

GROUP SESSIONS AND MEETINGS:

The main essence of our long term programs stem from the fact that even when the person has stayed away from drugs for a very long time, the addiction is still in place. If the individual takes even a tiny bit of drugs, without the intention of repeating the act ever again in his lifetime, it could trigger off a relapse to outright addiction. Abstinence is the only way to stay off drugs and addiction and the person in recovery must take that lesson to heart. This lesson is repeatedly driven into their minds and hearts through group sessions and meetings.

Hence sessions and meetings form the backbone of a drug rehab program. Through these sessions, certain clarity is brought to the children and youth regarding the meaning of addiction, impact of addiction on life, and the types of addiction. Meetings are also organized to make explicit the importance of relationships, adjustments in groups, perception of the mainstream etc. These transformation sessions and meetings are pre planned and essential and they move parallel with all other activities in the Centres. They are aimed at enabling the children and youth to evolve mission and goals for life and become futuristic in their vision. This gives them the purpose to live and assures them that their struggle for addiction free life though not easy is definitely possible. This makes them hopeful and they begin to look forward to a dignified life in future.



Girls Centre



Boys Centre

Chapter – 9

RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT.....

Recreation and entertainment are an inseparable part of their rehabilitation. Recreational opportunities help reduce social anxiety as they gradually learn to feel comfortable in social situations through games and other activities.

It also acts like a relief valve by reducing the stress caused by confrontation of deep rooted emotional issues which is a part of their rehab programme. It also helps to combat feelings of loneliness and isolation by strengthening the bonds they share with their peers. Friendships flourish and chances of long term successful recovery increase manifold.

While on the street they had never envisaged any form of recreation or entertainment without using drugs. This association is rather strongly embedded in them and therefore, in the rehab program some of them find it difficult to participate in the recreational activities. However, the staff at the rehab centres constantly encourages them to engage in indoor games and even participates with them.

At SUPPORT, we create opportunities for outdoor activities and games for children and youth for them to utilize excessive energy and power. Cricket is a game the boys associate with and look forward to playing during the long school vacations. The girls play hopscotch, statue, passing the parcel, and numerous other games. It is when children play in groups that they tend to develop sense of belongingness, perhaps it is the beginning. Children and youth are taken for picnics regularly to national parks, resort etc.

We also encourage indoor activities and games like UNO cards, carom, chess and business (game) for children/youth. Most of the activities/games are executed in small and large groups by the staff or by Peer Educators.

‘Coffee evenings’ are also enjoyed by our children and youth regularly. The concept of coffee evening is that the senior youth welcome new youth into the program. This is the occasion for everybody to celebrate life without drugs. The staff and the youth rejoice every moment of their recovery with dance, food, sharing etc.

Our corporate volunteering groups, too, arrange events and programs for our children and youth to participate and enjoy. These events could be screening of movies, organizing different competitions or celebration of festivals.



Chapter – 10

REPATRIATION/REUNIFICATION.....

Not all street children are born on the street. Often the circumstances cause these children and youth to land on the street despite having families. Many times they run away from home under the impression that it will provide them with more opportunities and economic advantages than their home lives could offer.

Once they land on the street and adopt street lifestyle, they get entrapped and pulled into its whirlpool. Taking a U turn and going back to families becomes almost impossible to them due to feelings of shame and guilt. SUPPORT tries to make this process smoother to ensure that the children who have parents/guardians are reunited with them. Wherever possible we try to contact family members and inform them about their child after the detoxification treatment. We were able to unite 16 youth with their families after their successful completion of rehabilitation process.

The sound financial status and positive and safe environment of parents/guardians is a very crucial deciding factor in repatriation so as to avoid relapse of addiction. Hence if the conditions allow the reunification, only then do we reunite the child/youth with family.



Chapter – 11

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