

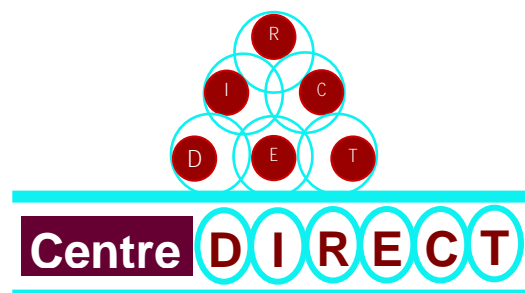


Centre DIRECT

Centre for Documentation Information Research  
Education Communication and Training.

Annual Report 2017-2018

129 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Patliputa Colony Patna Bihar 8000013



## From the General Secretary

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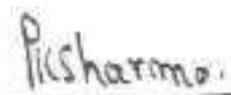
The Centre DIRECT since 1993 has been working with vulnerable people in vulnerable communities to find out solutions to the pressing social problems. Our projects deal with some contemporary issues which include protection of child rights, prevention of child trafficking, skill development, livelihood training and HIV control among others.

In Bihar, a huge number of people are still living in conditions like slavery. With the support of the Freedom Fund and the Geneva Global, our focus is to combat slavery of many forms in the vulnerable communities of Sitamarhi, Sheohar and Gaya. For the past few years as a frontline organization, we advocate on the issues of modern-day slavery and human trafficking for the protection of the victims. Working together we protect the rights of vulnerable people, liberate and reintegrate the survivors of Human Trafficking.



Our heartfelt thanks to all those children and their parents associated with us in one way or other. Without them it would not have been possible. We would like to extend our special thanks to all team members, starting from the volunteers, motivators, co-ordinating team to office associates who have worked tirelessly to achieve the desired and designed impact on the community.

We extend thanks to all our stakeholders like Government Departments, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Lawyers and Media among others who have been with us and have supported in the journey of bringing about social change and justice.



Pramod Kumar Sharma

General Secretary

Centre DIRECT



## Who we are

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The Centre DIRECT in which “DIRECT” stands for DOCUMENTATION, INFORMATION, RESEARCH, EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION, AND TRAINING is a non profit organisation registered in 1993 under the Societies Registration Act, 21, 1860.

The Organisation has completed 24 glorious years, and has entered 25. Since its humble beginning, it has emerged as an independent non- profit organisation for undertaking Action Research, Advocacy, training dealing with multiple social issues of society. The Centre DIRECT has tried to justify the purpose of its establishment by taking up new challenges of various social aspects of rural life which engaged with marginalised communities and aimed to address the growing inequalities. Our organisation aimed to establish a society where men and women have equal participation in every sector concerning health, education, independent livelihood and participatory practices. Over the past years, the deliberate attempt has been made to remove social injustice by joining hands with global initiative to reduce the prevalence of slavery and trafficking among the vulnerable sections of society.

## Our objectives

- The Centre DIRECT envisages Increased protection of children from child labour, child trafficking, abuse, neglect, exploitation and any form of violence.
- To enhance women's and adolescent's social status by empowering them to gain control over their own life, health and development concerns.
- To support and strengthen the communities to implement and manage effective health and development programmes by providing capacity building training, education, vocational training and skill development .
- Focus on awareness and sensitization in the community, capacity building, developing and disseminating education, training and advocacy issues related with women and adolescent through SHGs.

## Our Policies: An Update

### "Child Protection Policy"

The organisation is committed to prevent, protect and promote the rights of children from survival to development, to protection and participation. Herewith, we intend to make safe and child friendly environment in the organization and intervention area. The organisation commits not to discriminate any child in the name of religion, caste, creed, ethnicity, gender, disability and economic status.



*Project Staff taking oath on child protection Policies*

### "Policy on Sexual Harassment"

The organisation's Sexual Harassment policy ensures that every volunteer, staff member and supervisor has a responsibility that sexual harassment does not occur. The Centre DIRECT ensures that reports of sexual harassment will be treated promptly, seriously and confidentially.

### "Policy on Gender Equality

The organisation policy for Gender Equality represents Organisational commitments to gender equality. It has been written to help staff and volunteers ensure that our work improve the lives of men and women and promotes Gender equality.



“Making an impact for children in 2017”

## Projects we have

### 1. Indo Nepal Anti Human Trafficking Initiative

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With the generous support of Freedom Fund and Geneva Global the Organization works to address Human Trafficking, Child Labour as well as unsafe migration in Sheohar and Sitamarhi. Throughout the project period, the organization will seek to strengthen existing community vigilance committees (CVCs) and improve safety mechanism, increasing access to government schemes and entitlements and supporting Legal cases, increasing access to education, vocational training, and alternative source of income, and motivating key Stakeholders to address human trafficking, bounded labour child labour and unsafe migration. The Centre DIRECT is working to create an enabling environment for freedom, empowering local population, advocating for the implementation of government services. The Centre DIRECT seeks to ensure protection of all children, adolescent girls, women and community members across Sitamarhi and Shohar.

Strengthening community based protection after flood.

The August 2017 flood that resulted in an emergency situation in 19 districts of Bihar. The massive flood stuck in Sitamarhi District displacing thousands of people and has badly affected the houses, means of livelihoods/standing crops, livestock, food, fuel & fodder as well as basic means of communication like roads, bridges as well as destroyed man-made dams/embankments developed as safety measures to the flood effects. Experiences from previous flood effects indicate that as of its nature this rescue and relief initiative goes only for a short time of period and zero down once water started decreasing and affected people starts going to their original places. But however the situation becomes more vulnerable in post flood situations when the affected families returned to their original place having destroyed shelter, no food and livelihood means to survive. Apart from the above the situation becomes more vulnerable due to surrounded water logging and unhygienic situation affecting the sources of drinking water which becomes sources for epidemics related to water borne diseases and even causes deaths especially to the children.



*"Disaster affected and prone communities."*

In some areas 95% families were forced to move, many of them into temporary shelters. As Sitamarhi is bordering area of Nepal is already prone to trafficking, these conditions created new risks of violence, exploitation as government relief agencies could barely deliver supplies, it was clear those local residents were unable to protect individuals at risk of trafficking and violence. Realizing the situation a lot of initiatives have been taken – up by the government to support the people in current situation viz. rescue and relief operations while involving NDRF/SDRF and army along with local administration while setting up relief camps and community kitchens in different areas. Besides these government initiatives a number of welfare initiatives have also been taken up by the NGOs/INGOs and local charity based organizations and individuals like providing food, temporary shelter, drinking water and medicines etc. to the displaced population residing at high places like embankments and school buildings etc.

The Freedom Fund and the Geneva Global provided technical and financial support to the Organisation to rapidly assist the most vulnerable in Project area. The frontline workers Centre DIRECT organized flood relief camp, where approximately 250 families of vulnerable communities were provided with 25 kg of rice, 10 kg of flour, cereals, pulses as well as material for temporary shelter like mat, tarpaulin. The target beneficiaries also received free medical check up with the coordination of local health authorities.

## Impact

- 20 CVCs were formed trained on Government programs and entitlements, laws and policies addressing forced labour.
- 150 CVC-members were sensitized and they developed plans to address slavery and trafficking in their respective community.
- 1,315 members of households accessed one or the other.
- 20 Village Information & Legal Centres are established and operating.
- 24 Slavery and trafficking cases were submitted through the Village Information and Legal Centres.
- 98 individuals were rescued and rehabilitated and provided with recovery support.
- 8 communities were slavery free by the end of 2017.
- 1,250 Population were slave-free communities.
- 272 vulnerable children are mainstreamed and sustained in formal schools.
- 169 children are admitted into the NFE centre.
- 77 girls of 18 age group were supported.
- 92 boys of 18 age group were supported.
- 101 of previously out-of-school children attending classes who have been liberated from situations of slavery.
- 500 children, children were identified.
- All 500 children inducted in non-formal education centres established in their vicinity. Out of them 215 vulnerable children are mainstreamed and sustained in formal schools.
- 1,500 girls were identified, mobilized to Kishori Samooch and being provided family life education in the centres established in their vicinity.

*"86 girls have completed vocational training according to their skills and ambition. They have been provided considerable awareness and knowledge in various aspect trafficking. They have been provided legal orientation on issues of their concern as child marriage, age at marriage, dowry, trafficking of girl children, child labour, rights of women at a police station, etc."*

*"21 adolescent girls have started their own enterprise and are earning income"*

## 2. Vihaan Care and support Centre at Sitamarhi

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Vihaan is a national initiative establishing and managing 350 Care & Support Centres (CSCs) across India to expand access to essential services, increase treatment adherence, reduce stigma and discrimination, and improve the quality of life of people living with HIV (PLHIV). The Centre DIRECT runs care and support in Sitamarhi District to deliver care & support services in communities living with HIV Aids. Vihaan Care and support centre at Sitamarhi provides access to a range of quality care & support services using an integrated approach that complements existing HIV prevention and treatment programming. Working in coordination with nearby ART Centres, CSCs serve as safe spaces for PLHIV offering services that include counselling, outreach and follow-up support, health referrals, and linkages to social welfare schemes.



*"Group Meeting"*

### Impact

- 1,268 PLHIVs registered in ART Centre and on ART are registered in the CSC.
- 323 PLHIV in Pre ART phase who get registered at the CSC
- 1,598 No of registered PLHIVs receiving at least one counselling service in the quarter
- 353 registered PLHIVS receiving at least one counselling session on thematic areas.
- 894 at least one family member or sexual partner referred for HIV testing and received test result.
- 1,305 PLHIVs registered in the CSC linked to Govt. social welfare scheme.
- 1,305 Proportion of PLHIV lost to follow up (LFU) brought back to treatment.
- 13 Advocacy meeting organised.
- 1,560 registered PLHIV screened for TB symptoms (4 S) by CSC staff through ICF.





*Child labour at Stone quarry Gaya*

### 3. Support Transformation for New Evolution - STONE Quarry Project

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The Centre DIRECT'S STONE Quarry project is implemented in 13 villages of Gaya and Sasaram districts which are dominated by the marginalised of the society such who are living on the edge of social exclusion as stone quarry worker and living miserable life and children losing their childhood. The Centre DIRECT have chosen the project villages because of the high prevalence of slavery and trafficking.

#### Project activities

- Focusing on rescue & rehabilitation of the victims of trafficking amongst migrants.
- By promoting the sustainable education of the children & enabling them to access the quality education in the govt schools.
- To develop the trade skills among the survivors of Gaya, youth at risks of stone quarry, by placing them on the jobs and promoting their self-employment will stop the migration and child labour practice in stone quarrying and secondly having the play centres for their entertainment will also help to reduce the out-migration.
- To promote the self-help groups, saving, credit lending and multiple livelihoods among children/youth.
- Promoting the sustainable structure in the form of CVCs in the project villages will put a system in place to check the migration of children/youth, chase away the contractors/traffickers, enable the survivors & stone quarry workers to access the govt aid, packages, compensation and entitlements etc contributing in the fall of slavery, trafficking & migration situations.



NFE at Sasaram

Legal Service camp on Child Labour and Victims of Human trafficking.

Legal Services Authority Act, 1987 was passed with an objective to provide free and competent legal services to weaker sections of the society so that they do not remain deprived of justice due to economic or other disabilities. It extends to making people aware about their entitlements under various enactments and welfare schemes and strengthening their access to the same. Some Legal



*Beneficiaries at stall*

Awareness Camps were being held by the State Legal Services

Authorities to make people aware but there was a need to affect paradigm shift from awareness to empowerment and for this to happen delivery based model for holding Legal Service Camp was conceptualized and to fulfil this purpose camp at Tekari was held.

The legal service camp was organized on 30<sup>th</sup> January at Tekari Raj School Gaya. The objective of the camp was to spread awareness about welfare legislations and schemes and strengthen the community's access to the schemes being implemented by the Legal Services Authority and other departments of Government. Identifying and connecting people to welfare schemes to ensure that fruits of welfare schemes are passed to the eligible people as well as to understand legal needs of people and address legal problems of people by giving appropriate legal advice and taking other necessary steps. Information, Education and Communication materials were widely used by organizers of the stalls either by the different department of Government or by NGOs for dissemination and to educate stakeholders on child marriage, child labour and human trafficking. Messages on legal and health related issues including information about different welfare schemes were displayed in effective manner. The Centre DIRECT pasted 35 big size flax board with in entire area of the camp filled with meaningful messages on the selected themes.

Centre DIRECT registered 300 beneficiaries during legal service camp in Tekari , 90 applications were received from physically challenged persons for tri cycle and of them 50 were distributed. He also informed that 75 applications were received for getting widow pension. 17 applications for widow pension, 77 for old age pension, 21 for Indira Awaas, 40 for Ujjawala, 20 for ration card and 08 for tri cycle were received at Centre DIRECT stall.



SHG Formation with women.

## Impact

- 10 adolescent boy and 10 adolescent girl group was formed.
- How many NFE established?
- How many children enrolled in NFE?
- 5 tailoring centre established in Gaya, 1 tailoring centre established in Sasaram.
- 10 Self Help Group formed in Gaya District.
- 4 Self Help group formed in Sasaram.
- Health camp organised for NFE children and their family.
- 300 beneficiaries registered in one day legal Service camp on child labour and victims of Human Trafficking for connecting people to welfare schemes and to address legal problems of the victims.

### “Zubaida’s Story”

Zubaida khatoon is a 35 years old woman living in Bela, a small village in Gaya District of Bihar. She is the Chairperson of the village school council and attends the CVC meeting quite often. The CVC Meeting, which was held on 30 November 2017, in her presence, other members discussed about various social evils such as human trafficking, child labour and bonded labour and their adverse effect on an individual’s life. During the CVC meeting, Zubaida was highly impressed by our work and appreciated our efforts made on the concerned issues. She even in her own village encouraged the people to send their children to school regularly. She further took the initiative in a meeting with the staffs of government school and requested everyone to support them by not sending their children below 18 years to work outside. These collective efforts of the members including Zubaida saved two children from being the victim of child labour. This is the result of their efforts that the middlemen involved in child trafficking now fear to even step in the village.



*“Speaking up against modern slavery and trafficking”*

*- Zubaida Khatoon*

### “Ajeet’s Story”

Ajeet kumar 14 year old boy is son of Jatan Mandal lives in village Ajamkumbhi District Gaya was rescued from Bangle factory in Jaipur. With the support of rescue Staff of Stone quarry project Centre DIRECT he was sent to open shelter home for few days. After his counselling, on the instructions of child welfare committee Gaya, he was sent to live with his parents. After spending few days with his parents he was again went back to bangle factory. During the second follow-up the staff went to Ajeet’s home but he was missing from there. After the further follow-up, first of his parent tried to mislead the team but soon they committed that Ajeet has gone back to Jaipur and working in a Bangle Factory. After giving pressure to his parents they contacted Ajeet and asked to come back to the native. Finally Ajeet is happily living with his parents. This effort follow up team was greatly appreciated by the Mukhiya of Azamkhumbhi Village and he promised that he will ensure that no other child from his Panchayat would go for Labour work in future.



## 4. Children's Home Boys, Sitamarhi

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A large number of children in need of care and protection who enter the juvenile justice system through the Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) for their long-term care, treatment, education, training, development and rehabilitation. These homes shall serve as a home away from home and provide comprehensive child care facilities to children for ensuring their all-round development. With the support Bihar state child protection Society Centre DIRECT works towards enhancing the capabilities and skills of children and work with their families with the view of facilitating.

### Project objective

The objective of this project is to give a home to distressed, neglected or abused children, victims, children, and show them a way out of the cycle of repression, misery, violence and exploitation through individual aid and encouragement, with the support of government of Bihar. To provide education and other supportive initiatives designed to improve the quality of child care.

### We provide

Better sanitation and hygiene

Free medical facilities

Food according to diet scale

Clothing and bedding

Education and vocational training



## 5. Improving Health and livelihood condition for the vulnerable community of Musachak Panchayat, Bihar

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Vulnerability is a sensitive social issue and District Administration is still fighting with the vicious cycle of Trafficking and extreme poverty among the vulnerable communities. The Centre DIRECT is working in Sitamarhi districts since 12 years and able to understand the demography, socio-economic scenario, cultural dynamics of the target population considering their risk and vulnerability. Centre DIRECT being a civil society organization is working with the generous support of Terre des Hommes we have selected 3 villages of Barginea Block of Sitamarhi namely Shivanagar, Nandwara and Masahanarottam. With the support of Terre Des Homes, Centre DIRECT works to improve health and livelihood condition of vulnerable community of Sitamarhi District of Bihar.

Objective:

- To aware the target community to bring positive change health seeking behavior.
- To generate demands for quality healthcare services.
- To link the target community with the Healthcare schemes and programmes provided by the government.
- To link the target group with the financial institution of microcredit services.



*"Livelihood support through Goat rearing"*

Activities:

- Awareness and sensitization of target group with CVC, Training and orientation of PRI representative and govt. functionaries on concept of modern slavery, ICPS, child rights, human trafficking at Panchayat level. Capacity building training to PRI draw plan of action for the Panchayat.
- Awareness and BCC meetings for health seeking behaviour in target community with ASHAs, AWWs, and ANMs to ensure that all the activities for which they are responsible.
- Livelihood promotional activities for the target community with individual and small group activities undertaken through bank linkages.

## Red Hand Day

The Red Hand day is celebrated on February 12, which aims at opposing children involved in armed conflicts ending the use of child soldiers. The objective of the activity is to draw attention towards the exploitation of child as soldiers. The Centre DIRECT with the support of Terre des Homes participated in Red Hand Day celebration on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in the area of Bargania block of sitamarhi District of Bihar. The Red



*"Children against violence and exploitation"*

hand day campaign among the children and youth mainly focused on the protection of minors from the exploitation and violence. The aim is to create safe spaces free from exploitation and violence, where Hundreds and thousands of children and young people worldwide are forced to fight with weapons in their hands.

## Global Action Month

Centre DIRECT with the support of Terre des Homes participated in global action month activities in the area of Shivanagar, Nadwara and Mashanarrottam of sitamarhi District of Bihar. The activities among the children and youth mainly focused on the protection from the exploitation and violence. The aim is to create safe spaces free from exploitation and violence, where children and young



*"Children participated in Global Action Month"*

people find protection and safety, so they can stand their ground. Children and youth across the Sitamarhi District from Centre DIRECT projects want to contribute their part through their activities in the context of the global action month 2017. Centre DIRECT organized youth Compiegne on 14 November 2017 in Global month initiatives to empower youths and children of the communities to take ownership of sustainable development goal by inviting local young people to raise awareness on (SDG) within local campuses and communities to take meaningful action.



## Impact...

- 3 villages covered.
- 4 schools covered.
- 4 Aanganwari covered.
- 4 SMC reached.
- 10 governments reached.
- 7 health worker reached
- 7 PRI reached.
- 56 beneficiaries received benefits of toilet scheme.
- 10 beneficiaries linked with Idira Awas yojna.
- 41 beneficiaries linked with Ujwala yojna.
- 130 participants participated in campaign to aware community against child marriage and dowry system.
- 145 participants participated in youth campaign organized on 14 November 2017 in Global month initiatives to empower youths and children of the communities to take ownership of sustainable development goal by inviting local young people to raise awareness on (SDG) within local campuses and communities to take meaningful action.
- 35 children participated in painting competition participated in the initiatives of global action month. The children of vulnerable
- Community who showcased their perception about healthy environment and importance of plantation.
- 120 children enrolled in school.
- 120 children monitored during Aanganwari centre.
- 3 children group, 4 youth group and 3 women group formed.
- 6 communities meeting conducted on health sanitation and Livelihood.
- 30 families of project area got livelihood. Support through Goat rearing.
- 01 child Marriage stopped.
- 01 child labour stopped.



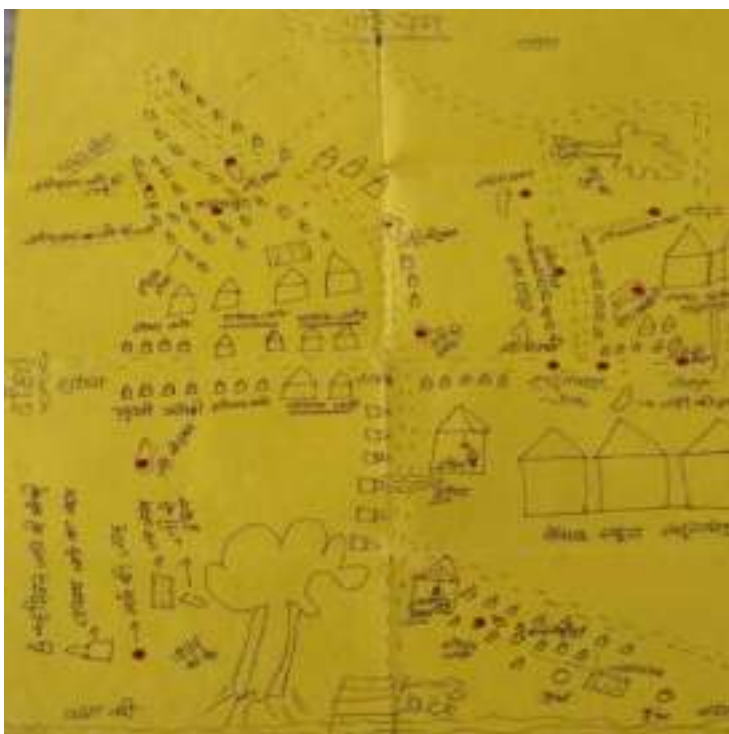
*"I enjoyed school, especially Maths which is my favourite subject. One day I was suddenly told by my parents that I am getting married. I did not want to leave school. It was terrible for me to have sit inside and watch my friends going to school. But luckily due to the efforts of CVC I was saved from being one of the victims of child marriage."*

-Salma Khatoon

## 6. Aangan Trust

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The Aangan prevention model targets across high risk Districts working with parents, children, adolescents and government official to build strong care and protection mechanism to keep children safe. With the support of Aangan, the Centre DIRECT worked in Muzaffarpur District of Bihar for awareness about child risk and preparedness for adverse situation. It worked to ensure that the vulnerable families can access rights, social protection and basic services and to keep children safe from child marriage, trafficking and exploitation.



The Aangan's PACT programme trains the vulnerable community on child protection workers to recognize, prevent, response to harm. In the

communities of Sakhra and Raghunathpur Panchayat .The PACT volunteers were trained and empowered to be alert on child protection issues such as child marriage, trafficking, violence and abuse, to share information and mobilize support for action and activate government services and Panchayati Raj Institution to promote child protection and safety. The PACT worker in Sakhra and Raghunathpur trained to work with 80 families in each Panchayat to identify risk, respond to child harm cases, link communities to child protection officers. Super smart Shakti girls are trained to implement safety network within the communities.

*"Safety map prepared by super smart shakti girls of Raghunathpur Panchayat to experience the power of collective actions"*

### Building safe and empowered communities

With the support of Aangan, Centre DIRECT runs super smart shakti and Aasli champion safety network that aims to build resilience and empowered adolescent and children. They developed educational, vocational and safety plans for the community against child marriage and exploitation. In the group they learn about their rights and government entitlements. The safety network runs every month throughout the year and is attended by 60 girls and 50 boys per community.

Working with children in dangerous situations focusing on child trafficking, hazardous work, child marriage, and violence/abuse

The Centre DIRECT with Aangan worked towards the creation of a protective environment for children where all of their rights are secured. This work can take many forms, including ensuring support to families; advocating for changes in laws, social practices and norms; building capabilities and resilience of the individual child; enabling children and their communities to access protective and essential services; and training and catalyzing existing protective services (children's institutions, police, statutory bodies, protection officers, district officials, community and local authorities) to be proactive about children's well-being and safety.



*"Volunteers at ground level work to prevent child trafficking and violence and to keep children safe"*

Through Aasli Champion network adolescent boys are connected to mentorship and a positive peer group; they are supported to challenge normative perceptions of manhood; to recognise the protection risks they face in their lives and exercise agency; articulate aspirations and create life plans; identify and strengthen relationships with supportive adults; and negotiate for themselves to take steps towards realising their life goals. Perceived as workers or troublemakers, the vulnerabilities of adolescent boys largely go unaddressed. Through group and individual work and community events, boys learn to recognize and articulate risk, take steps towards reframing their image of themselves and come to be recognized as change makers in the community.



*"Aasli Champion Boys mentored during in community event on risk and abuse they face."*

## 6. Target Intervention Project of IDU in Patna

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### Objective

To contribute to the reduction of HIV/AIDS incidence among injecting drugs users, their partners and families and reduce the pool of infection in Patna which will significantly create a positive impact on overall reduction of HIV prevalence rate. This will in turn contribute to increased quality of life for IDUs.

### Activities of project:

1. Risk reduction service delivery for 400 IDUs including their partners.
2. Community mobilization through establishment of user groups in each zone.
3. Awareness programs for the general population on IDU and HIV/AIDS.



Training on Harm reduction for Outreach worker and IDU

### Impact:

- 426 registered active HRG.
- 409 outreach coverage.
- 362 regular contacted.
- 4035 condom distributed in social marketing.
- 10 STI cases treated.
- 18 follow up were done.
- 3835 HIV tested.
- 3 HRG linked with ART.

Thanks to our Donors



### Our Legal status

Registration No: 295/93-94 (Registered under societies Registration Act of 1860, With the Inspector General of Registration, Bihar, and Patna.

Date of Registration: 12.08.1993

FCRA No: 031170240

Income Tax 12 A No: 5(1997&98)

PAN NO: AAAA0845J

TAN NO: PTNCO28684F

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