

IIFL CHAURAS SUCCESS STORIES

Case -1

Title: Motivating Parents to Enroll Dolly Saini in Formal Schooling: A Path to Safety and Growth

Dolly Saini, a lively 5-year-old, began her journey at the Geetanjali Centre in Jaipur on October 12, 2023, in the Balwadi class. After relocating from Bharatpur, her parents, Ompal and Pooja, faced long working hours at the Geetanjali Medical Hub construction site, which posed safety risks for Dolly and her sister Jhanvi. The creche program transformed their lives, offering a nurturing environment where both Dolly and Jhanvi thrived. Dolly's weight improved from 12.1 kg to 13.7 kg, and she excelled in her studies and activities, drawing the staff's attention for further growth through formal education.



Dolly in school uniform and with her parents

Initially, Ompal and Pooja Saini wanted to enroll Dolly in a school in their native village, fearing their migratory lifestyle would disrupt her education in Jaipur. The Geetanjali Centre staff, recognizing the need for stability, addressed these concerns. They highlighted how a stable educational environment in Jaipur could offer Dolly consistent learning and growth, free from the disruptions of migration while ensuring safety and nurturing care.

During discussions, Pooja became more engaged with the Geetanjali Centre, joining as a helper on December 23, 2023. This provided her with an income and a supportive community, aiding her in coping with domestic challenges, including violence. The staff empowered Pooja to focus on Dolly's well-being. With their encouragement, Pooja realized enrolling Dolly in a formal school would protect her from domestic violence and ensure quality education. The staff's persistent support highlighted the potential of a stable, safe environment for Dolly's growth.

Following several discussions, the Saini family enrolled Dolly in the nursery class at Mother India Children Secondary School, Jaipur. She transitioned from the Geetanjali Centre on July 30, 2024, and started her new journey on August 1, 2024.

The Geetanjali Centre staff played a crucial role in prioritizing Dolly's education and well-being. Through consistent communication and support, they helped the family overcome concerns about domestic violence and migration. Dolly's successful enrollment showcases the significant impact of community support on families in difficult situations, paving the way for a brighter future.

Case Study 2:

Title: Educational Support at IIFL Chauras Neemli Centre

S.no	Name	Gender	Father's Name	At the centre, which class	School name	Class enrolled
1	Suraj	M	Tapi Mahto	Bridge Course		3 rd standard
2	Sonu	M	Tapi Mahto	Bridge Course		2 nd standard

3	Roshani	F	Tapi Mahto	Bridge Course	Government Primary School Bhambio Ki Nadi Pipalaj, Beawar, Raj.	1 st standard	
4	Kushboo	M	Tapi Mahto	Bridge Course		2 nd standard	
5	Khushi	F	Vinod	Bridge Course		4 th standard	
6	Rahul	M	Vinod	Bridge Course		3 rd standard	
7	Vishal	M	Vinod	Balwadi		2 nd standard	
8	Madhu	F	Devender	Bridge Course		2 nd standard	
9	Shivam	M	Devender	Bridge Course		2 nd standard	
10	Rashid	M	Mohd Tanvir	Bridge Course		1 st standard	
11	Kaneej	F	Mohd Kalim	Bridge Course		2 nd standard	
12	Nashid	M	Mohd Kalim	Bridge Course		3 rd standard	
13	Saroj	F	Akhilesh	Bridge Course		3 rd standard	
14	Jyoti	F	Akhilesh	Bridge Course		1 st standard	
15	Arpit	M	Anak Pal	Balwadi		2 nd standard	
16	Mohd Nashim	M	Mohd Naim	Bridge Course		3 rd standard	
17	Mohd Nafil	M	Mohd Naim	Bridge Course		1 st standard	
18	Siman	F	Jwala Prasad	Bridge Course		Private school, Beawar, Raj	Information not provided by parents
19	Pari	F	Jwala Prasad	Bridge Course			
20	Kartik	M	Jwala prasad	Bridge Course			

The IIFL Chauras Neemli Centre, operational since November 2022, provides childcare services to families working in mineral grinding units under RIICO. This initiative, a collaboration between Mobile Creches (MC) and Gramin Avam Samajik Vikas Sanstha (GSVS, Ajmer), offers daycare facilities and community support. The RIICO area has 50 to 60 grinding units, mainly employing migrants from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and other states. These workers, from underprivileged backgrounds, face challenges securing employment in their native places and migrate to Beawar for better livelihood opportunities.

After migrating to the Beawar RIICO area, families live with limited basic amenities. Education becomes difficult as parents work around the clock, leaving little time or resources for their children's education. A major challenge is the inability to afford school fees despite wanting their children to study. Additionally, unfamiliarity with the local area complicates the school enrollment process, leaving many children without access to formal education.

The Neemli Child Care Centre has been striving to enroll children in schools to ensure their future growth through formal education. The staff faced several challenges: many parents couldn't provide necessary documents like Aadhaar cards, birth certificates, and caste certificates, complicating the enrolment process. Parents worried about affording school fees due to low incomes. Convincing mobile parents to send their children to school was tough, as they frequently moved for work. Some parents preferred keeping their children at the centre, believing they would receive better care and comfort.

The childcare centre used various methods to address these problems. They actively assisted parents in obtaining necessary documents, guided them through the process, provided information, and accompanied them to government offices. They explored financial aid options like grants and subsidies for parents. The centre also worked with the community to spread information about education benefits and clear misconceptions through community meetings and PTAs. Lastly, they personalized their approach, tailoring plans to each family's needs and offering specialized support like counseling and home visits.

Thanks to the childcare centre's efforts, many children were enrolled in local schools, with the enrolment rate increasing by 20 within six months. Parents of these 20 children have settled in the

Bewar RIICO area, promoting their children's education and finding better income opportunities. Parents are now more engaged in school programs and events, and community meetings have raised awareness about education's importance. The Neemli Centre provided families with the necessary paperwork and guidance for school admission, significantly impacting these children's lives by empowering them and opening up new opportunities. All 20 children are currently attending school, actively learning, and building a foundation for a better future.



Pic 1&2: Children getting enrollment at school. Pic-3: Present photos of children attending school.

Case 3:

Title: From Homemaker to Community Champion

Smita Valjibhai Domna, a courageous woman from Ranaghat in Limbdi, Surendra Nagar, Gujarat, embarked on a transformative journey when she moved to Sun Footprints in Ahmedabad with her husband Valji and their two children. Initially a homemaker, Smita faced financial hardships as her family worked as daily wage laborers. Despite these challenges, she was determined to secure an education for her children, a decision that changed her life and the lives of many others.



At the IIFL Chauras Centre, located at the construction site, Smita's journey took a significant turn. She learned about the centre's curriculum and the importance of Early Childhood Development (ECD). Recognizing her potential, the staff encouraged her involvement, empowering her to transition from a stay-at-home mother to joining the workforce. Community meetings raised awareness about childcare and education, dismantling misconceptions and building trust among local families.

With the centre's support, Smita became a helper, which not only provided her with an income but also facilitated the enrollment of hesitant children from her community. As she balanced her duties at the daycare with her role as a mother, Smita received invaluable support from her colleagues.

Her journey from homemaker to community champion, inspired by the transformative power of the IIFL Chauras Centre, has brought hope to her community. Smita now finds joy in contributing to her family's well-being and witnessing the positive impact of education on her children and their peers. Through her efforts and the Centre's support, Smita has inspired her community to embrace education and childcare, paving the way for a brighter future.

Case 4:

Title: Sunita Rawat's Journey: Empowering Women Through Education

In rural India, traditional societal norms often impose significant limitations on women's opportunities, particularly after marriage, compelling many to prioritize household duties over personal aspirations. However, IIFL Chauras Centres are actively working to change this narrative by providing women with avenues for growth, learning, and career development. Sunita Rawat's story exemplifies how these centres empower women to overcome cultural barriers and realize their full potential.

Sunita Rawat, a resident of Rani Sagar, Beawar, Rajasthan, embodies this transformation. Married at the young age of 19 and a mother by 21, Sunita initially faced limited opportunities for personal and professional growth. Nevertheless, her determination led her to become the first daughter-in-law in her family to complete the 10th grade—an impressive achievement in her conservative community. Her journey toward empowerment took a significant turn in October 2022 when Mobile Creches, in partnership with Gramin evam Samajik Vikas Sansthan (GSVS), launched three daycare centres in Jaipur and Beawar aimed at training local women in Early Childhood Development (ECD) programs.



Encouraged by her sister-in-law, who was already working at the Neemli Centre, Sunita was invited to join a 12-day training program. Initially hesitant due to traditional views on women working outside the home, her family eventually supported her participation. This marked a pivotal moment in Sunita's life.

The ECD training equipped her with essential knowledge and skills to manage a Balwadi (early childhood) program, igniting a newfound sense of purpose. On November 23, 2022, Sunita was hired as a Balwadi worker, where she ensures that children receive proper nutrition, healthcare, and education in a safe environment. Her dedication has contributed significantly to the centre's increased enrollment and positive community engagement, as she actively raises awareness about early childhood care and education.

Sunita's success has not only transformed her own life but has also inspired other women in her community to pursue similar opportunities. She resumed her education, completing her 12th grade and now pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree. By fostering a culture of education and empowerment, IIFL Chauras Centres are instrumental in breaking down societal barriers, allowing women like Sunita to thrive and make meaningful contributions to their families and communities. Sunita's journey stands as a testament to resilience, igniting a spirit of aspiration and hope in others around her.

Case 5:

Title: Santosh Nayak's Journey of Empowerment and Leadership

Santosh Nayak's story is one of resilience, growth, and empowerment, shaped by her upbringing and the supportive environment fostered by IIFL Chauras Centres. Born in Jamshedpur village, District Churu, Rajasthan, on 14th January 1993, Santosh grew up in a family deeply rooted in traditional values but was blessed with parents who instilled in her a sense of responsibility and self-worth from an early age.



Despite the challenges of living in a resource-scarce village, Santosh's parents ensured she received an education and constantly motivated her to pursue her dreams. At the age of 17, Santosh was married and quickly had to balance her new responsibilities with her personal aspirations. Although societal norms dictated otherwise, her husband supported her in continuing her education. Against the odds, Santosh completed her 12th grade and went on to pursue higher education, a significant achievement in her rural community, where women's education is often not prioritised.

Santosh's connection with IIFL Chauras Centres came at a crucial time in her life. She has been working as a supervisor in association with Urmul Khejdi Sansthan, Nagaur (UKS) since December 2022, where UKS operates four centres in the Brick Klin setting in the Anupgarh district in Rajasthan. The centre provided her with the platform to further develop her skills in leadership, community engagement, and early childhood development. As a part of the IIFL Chauras initiative, Santosh became a role model for other women in her community, demonstrating how education and determination could empower women to achieve their goals, both for themselves and their families.

Santosh gained insights into childcare, education, and community leadership through the prep services and multiple incremental training programs and resources offered at the IIFL Chauras Centre. She took these lessons and applied them to her own life, not only as a mother but also as a leader within her community. The support she received from the centre played a pivotal role in helping her navigate the challenges of being a young mother, wife, and community leader.

Today, Santosh stands tall as an empowered woman, having transformed her life through sheer determination and the opportunities provided by IIFL Chauras Centres. Her journey from a small village girl to a leader in her community showcases the powerful impact of education and support systems like the IIFL Chauras initiative in changing lives.

Case 6:

Title: Lavish's Journey from Child Labour to Education

Lavish, a bright and resilient 9-year-old boy from Nagariya village in Uttar Pradesh, embodies the struggle many children face in rural India. His family, like many others, migrated to Anupgarh for employment at the local Chaudhary Brick Klin Unit, seeking to escape financial instability and harsh living conditions. Despite his youthful energy and potential, Lavish's future was clouded by the harsh realities of child labour, as he and his siblings were compelled to work in the brick kiln to support their family.



In the brick kiln environment, Lavish faced a bleak existence devoid of educational opportunities. His parents, burdened by financial pressures, prioritised immediate survival over their children's long-term

development, believing that Lavish's labour was essential for the family's sustenance. However, Lavish harboured dreams of attending school, fuelled by a desire for a brighter future.

Recognising Lavish's potential, the staff at the IIFL Chauras 2JSM Centre intervened. They approached Lavish's family, emphasising the transformative power of education. The staff explained how education could alter the trajectory of Lavish's life, breaking the cycle of poverty that had gripped their family for generations. Initially, Lavish's parents were hesitant; they feared that letting their son attend school would mean losing vital income. However, the centre's persistent efforts, combined with the genuine concern shown by the staff, gradually eased their fears.

On December 9, 2022, Lavish was enrolled in the Balwadi Class at the IIFL Chauras Centre. The centre provided him not only with access to education but also with a nurturing environment where he received nutritious meals, healthcare, and hygiene facilities. The centre fostered a sense of safety and belonging, allowing Lavish to thrive in his studies and engage actively with peers.

As Lavish began to adjust to his new routine, his transformation was profound. He became more confident, enthusiastic, and eager to learn. The structured learning activities stimulated his curiosity and creativity, enabling him to develop essential skills to pave the way for his future. Lavish's progress was not just academic; he also developed social skills and formed friendships that helped him grow emotionally.

The positive changes in Lavish's life extended to his family as well. As the centre encouraged parental involvement through community meetings, his parents began to understand the importance of education and the resources available to support their children's learning. They became active participants in discussions about educational needs and opportunities, recognising that investing in Lavish's education was an investment in their family's future.

Case 7:

Title: Transformative Impact of the IIFL Centre on Suraj's Life

Suraj's life underwent a significant transformation following his enrollment in the IIFL Chauras – NIPUN daycare centre. Born into a family facing economic hardships, Suraj's early experiences were characterised by limited access to educational resources and financial instability. His parents, Vakeel and Renu, worked diligently at the Rise Resorts construction site in Noida, often expressing concern about their children's future and educational prospects.

Recognising the potential for educational advancement within the community, the IIFL Chauras Centre provided Suraj with an invaluable opportunity. The dedicated staff actively engaged with his family, facilitating Suraj's enrollment in the programme. This initiative allowed him to transition from the challenging environment of the construction site to a nurturing space focused on early childhood education.



Initially, Suraj faced difficulties in adapting to the new learning environment. His previous schooling experiences in Bihar had not equipped him with foundational literacy and numeracy skills, leading to challenges in understanding basic concepts. However, the educators at the IIFL centre employed patient and effective teaching strategies that significantly aided Suraj in overcoming these obstacles. Through consistent encouragement and structured learning activities, he gradually developed proficiency in reading and mathematics.

The positive atmosphere at the IIFL Chauras Centre played a crucial role in Suraj's development. He discovered joy in storytelling, engaged in interactive games, and built relationships with peers,

all of which facilitated essential social skills and emotional resilience. Each session at the centre represented a crucial step toward a brighter future, enhancing his confidence and rekindling his enthusiasm for learning.

Moreover, Suraj's transformation had a profound effect on his family. Vakeel and Renu observed significant changes in Suraj's behaviour and outlook as he began to embrace educational opportunities and demonstrate a keen interest in learning. The centre's holistic approach not only provided academic support but also instilled essential life skills, such as teamwork, perseverance, and respect for others.

Suraj's aspirations of becoming a policeman were further nurtured by the interactions with local law enforcement officers who visited the centre. This exposure broadened his understanding of career possibilities and motivated him to pursue his dreams with determination.

Through the dedicated efforts of the IIFL Chauras Centre, Suraj transitioned from a life marked by struggle and uncertainty to one filled with hope and ambition. His journey exemplifies the transformative power of early childhood education in breaking the cycle of poverty and enabling children to realise their full potential. Today, Suraj serves as an inspiring testament to the impact of quality education and support systems, representing a future filled with promise for both him and his family.

Case 8:

Title:

A Journey of Support and Compassion: Neha Harindra Yadav's Pregnancy Amidst Migration

Neha Harindra Yadav, 28 years old, a resident of Pipraicha village, Hata block, Kushinagar district, Uttar Pradesh, migrated with her husband and daughter to Ahmedabad in March 2023 for a better life. Neha's husband worked at a construction site as daily wage labour and earned 500 rupees daily.

After coming to Ahmedabad, they settled at the Sun Footprint construction site, with limited resources, where her husband found work as a labourer. During a labour camp visit, creche workers interacted with Neha, who informed them that her menstrual cycle was delayed that month.

Creche workers provided a pregnancy kit and guided her about all the necessary steps she needed to take during her pregnancy. They linked her to the nearby

Primary Health Centre, where the doctors examined her and confirmed that she was 2 months pregnant. Moreover, the teachers assisted her in obtaining her Mamta card and medical facilities. In the seventh month, when she began to feel pain, she informed the creche worker at five in the morning. Workers guided her and accompanied her to the hospital at that time.

Moreover, Neha was tense and concerned about her pregnancy following this incident. As the days passed, Neha's anxiety grew. Furthermore, the doctor gave a due date of 3rd October, but



Pic 1: Neha with her first child. Pic-2 Neha with her newborn baby girl

the delivery did not occur until 15th October. Tensed, Neha and her husband made the sudden decision to return to her native village, where she could be with her family during childbirth. During the travelling, Neha began experiencing intense labour pains a few kilometres away from Deoria Sadar railway station. The situation was dire, and they called the workers for guidance. The creche worker advised them to seek emergency medical assistance at the nearest station. After contacting RPF and GRF staff of Deoria Sadar railway station, Neha was admitted at the Bandipur Urban Centre, Bandipur, Deoria district, Uttar Pradesh.

Neha's labour progressed rapidly, and she gave birth to a healthy baby girl (2.5 kg) with the help of the medical staff at the hospital. Neha is overjoyed and deeply grateful to the creche workers who showed her compassion and encouragement throughout his pregnancy, particularly when she was away from her family.

Case Study 9:

Title: Aryan's Journey Towards a Brighter Future

Aryan hails from a small village called Pipar in the Farrukhabad district of Uttar Pradesh. His parents work as labourers at the Guru brick kiln site in 68/1 GB village, Rajasthan, migrating annually to various kiln sites for work. This nomadic lifestyle left Aryan and his siblings in unreliable living conditions. This year, the contractor brought Aryan's family, including his three brothers and two sisters, to a new kiln site where they currently reside and work. The constant travelling and his parents' hectic work schedule meant that Aryan's education and well-being were severely neglected.



Before intervention



After intervention

Aryan's challenges became apparent when the Chauras project staff conducted a baseline survey to identify workers and children in the area. During their visits, they found Aryan sitting near the kiln amidst the dust and dirt. His mother initially hesitated to send him to the centre, worried about his safety and her ability to balance work with childcare.

The staff reassured her of the centre's ability to provide a safe, clean environment and education for Aryan. After persistent efforts and a visit to the centre, Aryan's mother agreed to enrol him and his siblings in the creche class on November 1, 2023. The staff provided continuous support, ensuring Aryan adapted to the new environment. They created a nurturing space where Aryan received nutritious meals and participated in educational and recreational activities.

The transformation in Aryan was remarkable. Initially, he was shy and reserved, choosing only to interact with his older brother. But soon, he became sociable and active. He began to enjoy his time at the centre, engaging with other children and participating in various activities. His hygiene, daily routine, and weight gain from 10.2 kg to 11 kg also improved significantly. Aryan's family, recognizing the positive changes, became more involved in community meetings and understood the importance of education and support for their children. At present, Aryan has migrated to his

village due to the closure of Brick Klin and will return on November 24, when Brick Klin work will start operational.