

Case Study-1

An emotional journey from Brick Kiln worksite to a chauras center

A child is meant to learn not to earn. Children in the labour force are caught up in this vicious cycle of child labour as poverty is the main reason that pushes young children into the workforce. Ankit was one such child who was forced into the workforce.



Ankit, 11 years old was enrolled in the Bridge Course class at Chauras Centre of Shri ganganagar in Rajasthan, on 13th December 2022. His family hails from Etawa district, Uttar Pradesh, where they migrated to Rajasthan with their five children in search of work. Ankit and his siblings started working at the brick kiln site, a work he did not enjoy. A ray of hope came into Ankit's life when the chauras workers found Ankit laying bricks on a sunny afternoon at the brick kiln site. The team then decided to enquire with the parents regarding their children's working status. They were informed that the parents had sent Ankit and his siblings to work because of his father's disabilities and financial difficulties. It then came to the knowledge of our

team that Ankit was interested in attending school and wanted to study rather than work. However, he was compelled to work due to his family's financial situation. Our team then tried to persuade the parents to send their children to chauras; they oriented them about the various provisions made available, such as nutritious meals, clean drinking water, medical care, and education. Our chauras team also invited the parents to the centre and showed them the provision made for supporting children education and health, that will be available to their children. Convinced, the parents enrolled all their children including Ankit at chauras.

During initial days, Ankit was hesitant to participate in the activities but now he willingly takes the lead. Ankit and his siblings are now on a path to a better life shaped by education and interventions provided at Chauras. Moreover, his parents are now satisfied with their children going to the creche and have realized that their children's tiny hands deserve to hold a pencil and not make bricks.

Case Study- 2

Quick first aid services healed a wounded child at the chauras centre.

Sikendra, a 6-year-old energetic child, loves to play with his playmates close to the labour camp. He and his family travelled from Shivalayam Mandal, Bhadawar Dairy, Rohtas, Bihar to the Mangalam Anantara contraction site in Jaipur, Rajasthan. The meagre daily wage earned by Sikendra's parents was insufficient to cover their living expenses. His parents could not afford to send their children to school, and would rarely be able to prepare two meals in a day. Parents work day in and day out at the block due to their dire financial circumstances, while their children live unsupervised in a house located in a labour settlement.

The chauras team visited Sikendra's family and explained all the services offered at the centre, such as nutritional hot-cooked meals, health care, protection, education, and care. Sikendra and his

brothers were enrolled in the Bridge course at the Chauras centre on 4th January 2023. Before starting the Bridge Course, Sikendra came off as being incredibly naughty. On 4th April 2023, while Sikendra was playing outside a boulder struck him, leaving him with a deep cut on his forehead. The daycare staff provided him with first aid assistance. Afterwards he was transferred to a nearby hospital for further treatment, where he got three sutures on his forehead. The staff instructed the parents regarding changing the child's bandages and medication. In a few days, his wound healed owing to the regular medical assistance from the daycare staff at Chauras.

Another incident occurred when he accidentally slipped and fell on a brick on 6th June 2023, wounding and bleeding his small toe. The staff provided first aid assistance and administered medication. The creche worker, who routinely bandaged Sikandar's toe, cautioned him against walking barefoot. It took just four days for his toe to recover. After the incident, Sikander stayed at the chauras centre all day, used all the facilities, and advanced considerably. He is now attentive in class and participates in all the activities.



First Incident and treatment by Chauras team member



Case Study-3

Helping Neelam Stay Healthy

“Fighting Malnutrition and Delayed Development”

This is the story of 2.5 years old girl Neelam, her mother Malavati works at the Rise Resort construction site as a laborer and her father Kamal works as a Mason on the same site. Neelam has two elder siblings and she was born in her native state Uttar Pradesh, and it was a non-intuitional delivery as her mother did not believe it was necessary to go to the hospital.

Neelam first came to the chauras center when she was 21 months old on the 9th of January 2023 after tireless efforts made by the staff to convince her mother to get her children enrolled in the childcare center. On the first day, Neelam's weight was measured, and it was found that she was 7.5 kg; way below the normal weight for a child of her age.

Alarmed by the situation, the staff immediately talked about the health condition of the child to Malavati (mother), she was not aware of the situation and claimed that her other children started walking late so it was not an area of concern. Neelam at 21 months old was struggling to walk. She would try to take steps but would fall; hence she would crawl most of the time. The staff knew this was delayed development, which was not good if it persisted for a long time. She was also suffering from delayed speech and was not able to speak.

The Staff took special care of her diet and provided nutritious food. They also ensured that a massage was given regularly. She was encouraged to take small steps with the help of a walker. The staff also counseled her parents and had one-to-one meetings with them regularly. They ensured that both Malavati and Kamal understood the importance of eating nutritious and wholesome food and they asked the doctor to give a discusses importance of nutrition, with all the other parents too whose who resided in the vicinity.

Today Neelam is 2 years and 5 months old, and her grade has changed from being severely underweight to moderately underweight. Her growth status is taken every month. She currently weighs 9.5 Kg, just under 100 grams from being in the normal category. She found a grip on her feet and started walking by herself. She has started to speak and can recognize pictures of some animals. She plays with building blocks and puzzles.

Neelam is cheerful and active in the chauras center and her mother says, “I am very happy that my daughter has learned to walk, she was very weak before and that is why she could not walk.” Kamal shares “She looks pretty”. She is healthier now and we hope she will soon be in the normal category.