



## SEMIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

October 2021 – March 2022 | India

In 2019, the states of Assam and West Bengal accounted for 11% of India's population—but 50% of reported child sex trafficking cases. We are working to stop trafficking, prevent violence, and share God's love with families living in these states.

### **ASSAM**

So far in FY22, we have reached 107,691 people through our Assam Child Protection Project. At this scale, we are changing lives and fostering society-level mindset shifts about why protecting children matters.

#### Our influence with police is growing.

After seeing the value of child-friendly spaces, the Director General of Police has requested that we add child-friendly spaces to *all* police stations in our project areas. After we trained 32 railway police to identify trafficking cases, the Superintendent of Railway Police asked us to train officers at *all* major railway stations in Assam as they are used as transit points for traffickers.

Girl Power Groups (GPGs) are a powerful first line of defense against child marriage and trafficking. Currently, there are 9,357 girls in 238 GPGs. Nearly a third of GPG members have taken action

to stop violence: reporting incidents to police, showing up to stop child marriages, and putting on awareness events. As one GPG member says, "We feel confident now, and we do not fear speaking, even in front of the police. We can easily take a stand for ourselves and our community." Learn more about how GPGs keep girls safe.

Men Care Groups (MCGs) are driving culture change. There are currently 4,930 men in 165 MCGs in Assam. In FY22, 1,761 members attended a session with their wife or daughter to improve their relationships, which led to changes such as men supporting their wives with housework and spending more time with their daughters. MCGs show men that they can be supportive leaders in their families and inspire change in their communities. Learn more about how MCGs drive culture change.



A Girl Power Group proudly advertises an Anti-Trafficking Warrior training, where girls learn about different kinds of violence and the laws and protection measures in place to protect them. This period, 352 girls became Anti-Trafficking Warriors and now play a lead role in reporting incidents of trafficking and other violence to World Vision and the authorities.

### PROGRESS TOWARD ANNUAL TARGETS ON CORE ACTIVITIES (ASSAM)



1,140 faith leaders completed Channels of Hope for Child Protection training

220 criminal justice system actors completed child protection training



## **INDIA**

#### **WEST BENGAL**

So far in FY22, we have reached 57,288 people through our West Bengal Child Protection Project. We served 1,161 children at 14 Child-Friendly Learning and Recreation Centers (CFLRCs) in 10 red-light districts. We trained police to stop child trafficking and equipped churches to care for red-light families. And we increased awareness about the need to protect children, especially girls.

Children in CFLRCs were shown love and support. We assessed 1,048 children to prepare them for a six-month education program to help them reach ageappropriate learning levels. (During the two years of school closures, online education was not available to children in red-light districts, leaving many behind in their education.) We provided **471 children** with counseling to help them cope with prolonged school closures. Finally, 321 children from CFLRCs attended a summer camp with the theme, "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made." They learned that God loves and accepts them unconditionally. As one 15-year-old girl said, "We learned that we are special. We are not ugly or dirty because God created us beautifully."

We responded to 150 child protection reports with law enforcement. The project has grown to include rescue operations, and we conducted rescues and registered crimes alongside police.

Seven traffickers were arrested as a result.

# We encouraged churches to show love to women living in red-light districts.

As a result, a Baptist church in Kolkata overcame negative stereotypes and held an event for CFLRC mothers to meet women in the church; 40 mothers and 10 church members attended. The church is also providing vocational training and a monthly stipend for 18 women.

We reached 49,186 people through the "Save our Daughters" campaign, launched together with West Bengal Police and the Hindu Priests Association after priests had attended a Channels of Hope for Child Protection training. We set up booths in all major temples to talk about sex trafficking during a week-long festival celebrated across West Bengal. Events like this help shift community mindsets about child protection, ensuring long-term change.



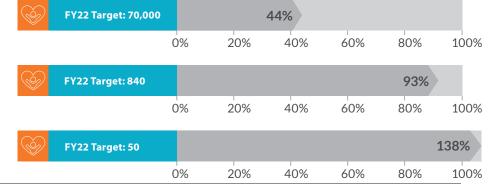
Mothers share a joyful hug during their monthly meeting. All CFLRCs in West Bengal hold monthly meetings for mothers. There, they learn about health, finances, and positive parenting. During this period, 780 mothers participated in meetings, and 120 mothers from two CFLRCs participated in an International Women's Day program.

## PROGRESS TOWARD ANNUAL TARGETS ON CORE ACTIVITIES (WEST BENGAL)

30,642 community members educated to prevent trafficking and promote safe migration

780 mothers and caregivers participating in monthly support meetings

69 families trained in the Celebrating Families curriculum to help them heal broken relationships and better care for each other



#### **KEY LEARNINGS AND CHALLENGES**

In both states, our work with faith leaders has proven incredibly effective. Nearly 2,000 Christian, Muslim, and Hindu leaders have taken the Channels of Hope for Child Protection training since the project began, equipping them to speak up for children's rights. In Assam, faith leaders are working with the United Christian Forum of Northeast India on a campaign about violence against children. In West Bengal, Hindu faith leaders are collaborating with us on a human trafficking awareness campaign.

We've also faced challenges: Heartbreakingly, we had to close the CFLRC we opened in Assam. We discovered a community volunteer was using physical discipline with the children. When the community would not accept our decision to dismiss this volunteer, we decided to close the center. Pray with us that God would open new doors and for a mindset shift toward greater concern for children.



Since the start of these child protection projects, services for survivors and the capacity to prevent and stop child trafficking have increased in Assam and West Bengal.

With this strong foundation, in October 2022, we will launch a new, four-year phase of the project that will reach 300,000 community members and directly benefit 22,000 girls and 7,000 boys in Assam and West Bengal. New elements include partnering with a respected local civic organization to open three overnight shelters for daughters of mothers working in red-light areas, and deeper collaboration with other local organizations to ensure such interventions continue after the projects end.



A mother and child draw together at a Celebrating Families workshop in West Bengal.

# LIFE-OF-PROJECT UPDATE

Assam (FY21-FY22)

349,389 people,

including 176,624 children and youth, have benefited from ministry activities so far.

West Bengal (FY18-FY22)

800,242 people,

including 277,476 children and youth, have benefited from ministry activities so far.

#### **THANK YOU**

"I have learnt from World Vision that no matter what happens in life, it's never too late to start again and do better things." — West Bengal trafficking survivor and advocate

Jesus' welcoming love is life-changing, and because of you, we are equipped to share His love—in word and deed—with thousands of vulnerable children, survivors, and children of survivors across India. We and the people whose lives your support directly impacts are deeply grateful. May God bless you.



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## **ASSAM FINANCIALS**

Project spending October 2021 through March 2022

Activity Description	Fiscal Year-to-Date Spending	FY22 Funding	Project-to-Date Spending
Outcome 1: At-risk children living in red-light areas and survivors of sex trafficking are made resilient and are able to protect themselves from second generation prostitution			
Provided at-risk children in red-light districts with legal identity and regular monitoring so they have increased resilience	\$ 2,124	\$ 2,107	\$ 11,727
Strengthened the capacity of red-light district single mothers to provide adequate care and nurturing to their children	868	4,142	6,223
Increased access to psychosocial care, formal education, and vocational training for reintegrated girls in Dhubri and Baksa districts of Assam	8,601	3,461	31,255
Outcome 2: Adolescent girls are active participants in efforts to reduce sex trafficking and other sexual violence against children in their families and communities			
Improved life skills, protective skills, and voice of adolescent girls to protect themselves and their peers from sex trafficking	40,921	13,330	343,038
Outcome 3: Community demonstrates knowledge and behaviors that are protective of adolescent girls from sex trafficking and other gender-based violence			
Trained faith leaders to prevent child sex trafficking and other sexual violence against children	16,821	7,558	94,181
Strengthened engagement of fathers and other men in protecting girls from sex trafficking and other gender-based violence	25,276	9,455	52,753
Increased awareness in communities on sex trafficking and ways and means of protecting girls	57,640	2,022	115,361
Outcome 4: Increased capacity, coordination, and accountability of formal/informal child protection actors in effectively preventing and responding to sex trafficking and other sexual violence			
Strengthened dialogue between communities and authorities to improve child protection issues	1,586	4,799	15,041
Established and strengthened community-based, child-friendly reporting and referral mechanism to enable girls to report	4,306	4,394	9,025
Enhanced capacity and coordination of formal child protection agencies to respond to sex trafficking and other sexual violence	2,892	6,200	29,273
Support costs	25,972	17,203	25,972
SUBTOTAL	187,007	74,671	733,849
Management and fundraising	62,336	24,890	244,616
TOTAL	\$ 249,343	\$ 99,561	\$ 978,465

## **WEST BENGAL FINANCIALS**

Project spending October 2021 through March 2022

Activity Description	Fiscal Year-to-Date Spending	FY22 Funding	Project-to-Date Spending
Outcome 1: Children, especially the most vulnerable, are active participants in reducing child sex trafficking and all forms of violence in their families and communities			
Increased capacity of children to protect themselves	\$ 57,236	\$ 123,524	\$ 667,554
Established Child-Friendly Learning and Recreation Centers	210,132	412,936	948,876
Provided services for girls in aftercare homes	15,840	44,935	203,884
Provided economic support to girls' families	-	-	418
Promoted alternative livelihood options	4,206	21,341	25,633
Provided psychosocial care, formal education, and vocational skills training	28,138	49,686	102,582
Outcome 2: Families have strong, healthy relationships and access to appropriate services to care for and protect their children			
Strengthened engagement among men to protect children	12,310	22,155	67,800
Created family development plans for families living in red-light districts	1,431	10,955	52,490
Cared for families with family development plans	41,359	48,636	102,934
Established income-generating activities for families with family development plans	2,737	20,257	24,373
Outcome 3: Communities, including faith communities, are working together to establish and sustain a safe and protective environment for all children			
Increased capacity of faith community to care for children who are vulnerable to, or survivors of, violence	2,650	6,077	88,636
Developed stronger district-level child protection committees	5,814	15,443	92,191
Coordinated meetings among government and nongovernmental organizations	13,053	22,245	155,491
Strengthened advocacy initiatives at district, state, and national levels	497	1,013	49,119
Supported most vulnerable families with food and hygiene supplies	-	-	94,689
SUBTOTAL	395,403	799,203	2,676,670
Management and fundraising	131,801	257,611	892,223
TOTAL	\$ 527,204	\$ 1,056,814	\$ 3,568,893