



Impact and outreach

- **Pahal** - 7 Sessions | 89 Children, Youth and Adults
- **Leher** 56 Participants (45 adults / 11 adolescents)
- **Sameeksha** 319 Participants (80 children/ 98 youth / 132 women/ 9 stakeholders)

Highlights

The first quarter of 2022-23 took us to the rural parts of Uttarakhand and Haryana with two new collaborations. It brought forth an opportunity to assess and analyze the prevalence of abuse and violence in its various forms across regional boundaries. With the opportunity, came the realization that in every corner of our country abuse and violence are being normalized as part of life. These realizations, while disheartening, play a critical role in helping us strengthen our strategy, approach and tools to continue prevention focussed work to mitigate the risks of abuse and violence that children, youth and women are vulnerable to.

Along with the new collaborations, we continued with some Pahal sessions and finally launched our 'Safe Spaces Project' at Manger village in collaboration with Laksh Foundation. Read on to get an update on Mudita Foundation's activities from April to June 2022.

PAHAL



Awareness session with women at Kusumpur Pahadi, Ritinjali

Awareness Sessions

Our very first awareness sessions this financial year were conducted in a small village by the river Mandakini in Uttarakhand. At Senagadh Sarai village in Rudraprayag district of Uttarakhand, we had the opportunity of interacting with the resident women and adolescents of the village and nearby. Both the sessions were held in April 2022 at the Mandakini Ki Awaaz radio station and were organized by People's Power Collective, an organization that envisions to empower the rural, isolated and/or economically disadvantaged communities by setting up and running their own broadcast networks. These interactions with 8 women and 10 adolescents used engaging and experiential tools that encouraged reflection and conversation in the context of personal safety issues.

A similar intervention was scheduled for the women of Kusumpur Pahadi, in collaboration with Ritinjali, one of our partner organizations with whom we have worked extensively through the Leher program. Here, we also met children in the age group of 6-12 years for a storytelling session on personal safety comprising safe and unsafe behaviour rules.

In June 2022, we redesigned our awareness module on 'Risks to youth' for Etasha Society's youth students enrolled in their Vocational Training and Placement program. This was a 4 hour interaction held on 22nd

June at Devli Mod centre. Together with 17 young girls and boys, we watched some videos to comprehend the pervasiveness of the risk of sexual abuse in public as well as work places. The participants also created freeze frames to depict different types and situations of abuse and violence they have witnessed. Mudita Foundation, equipped the group with relevant information on laws, reporting structures and resources. We hope to take this awareness module to more youth groups by engaging with new batches at Etasha Society every month.

Two online sessions were also organised for educators across the country in association with The Aditya Birla Education Academy. On 20th April, our team addressed 17 school leaders and educators emphasizing the significance of having an institutional child protection policy. The second interaction on 24th June focussed on reiterating the risks to children specifically in the context of sexual abuse and the POCSO law in place to tackle the issue.

Since most interventions are now taking place in person, we are able to develop and demonstrate experiential tools that not only help the participants to engage and reflect, but also support us in collecting data that can be utilized to identify and analyze trends, patterns and prevailing forms of abuse and violence in different areas.

SAMEEKSHA

Evidence based research

In May 2022, we started a baseline assessment in 5 villages in Sohna block of Gurugram district in Haryana. This venture in association with Navjyoti India Foundation will help determine future collaborative interventions on issues of safety in these and other villages in this block.

5 villages, 25 focussed group discussions with 80 children, 98 youth, 132 women and 9 key stakeholders at the village and district level; Mudita Foundation collected data over 12 days in May and June. This data has been collected using participatory tools developed by our organization to get perception-based and anecdotal evidence, qualitatively and quantitatively. We are thankful to Navjyoti India Foundation for this opportunity and the immense support in mobilizing stakeholders scheduling meetings. We look forward to sharing the report of this assessment in the next quarter.



LEHER

A new journey with People's Power Collective

In April 2022 we embarked on a new collaborative journey with People's Power Collective and executed the Leher program with their Umeed Network. 12 extremely talented RJs from 5 different community radio stations operational in various districts of Uttarakhand came together to participate in our 3 day training program. Knowledge sharing, network mapping, group discussions and making an action plan were all packed into the 2 days aimed towards exploring how the power of community radio can be leveraged to build safer communities in the hills of Uttarakhand. Team Mudita was humbled yet excited to go on air for

the very first time from Mandakini Ki Awaaz community radio station and share with the villagers our vision of building a world free of abuse, violence and exploitation. On the third day, the Mudita team met several district level stakeholders to get a clearer picture on the existing prevalence of crime against children and women in Uttarakhand. We had the privilege of meeting representatives at the One Stop Center, District Child Protection Unit, Women's helpline office, DLSA and the District Child Development unit. These interactions also helped us learn about the various local welfare schemes and initiatives.



Leher with PPC- Umeed Network

Building capacities - with the teacher trainees at Laksh Foundation



Teacher trainees at Laksh Foundation

It has been over a year since we first started working with the teacher trainees at Laksh Foundation in Faridabad. After completing the first phase of the Leher program, their team has ceaselessly worked towards keeping safety conversations alive with their beneficiaries in 5 villages. This time, on May 17th 2022, we worked with 30 teacher trainees on identifying the various stakeholders, formal and informal, who could come to help in case of any risk of abuse and violence against children and women of their communities. The participants engaged in groups village wise and mapped their relevant network. To

their surprise, all the teacher trainees were assigned with a task to meet up a district level stakeholder as a part of their homework. What came next was definitely a milestone moment in the Mudita-Laksh partnership, as the trainees successfully scheduled and met the district Mahila Mandal and the Child Welfare Committee. The exercise, as shared by the participants, helped them overcome their apprehensions of visiting a government office and also ignited in them a belief that it is possible to build positive relationships with government stakeholders.

The 'Safe Spaces Project' in Manger Village

We kicked off our pilot community project 'the Safe Spaces Project' in Manger village in May 2022. This village in Faridabad district of Haryana, is one of the villages where our partner Laksh Foundation has been working for a long time. A year long intervention, the 'Safe Spaces' project aims to work with various groups in the village to build awareness and capacity on issues of safety. Through this initiative, we envision creating a local space and team that would address safety issues, acknowledge conversations

related to risks of abuse and violence, work towards prevention and offer solutions.

On 17th June, we interacted with an energetic group of adolescents. Icebreakers, baseline activities, discussions on the meaning of safety and protection from their lens and framing their own safety contract, ensured an energetic start for the pilot. In the coming months, we are looking forward to working with this group at length while also identifying other groups like youth, women and children in the village.



'Safe Spaces Project' in Manger Village

A busy quarter, packed with new collaborations, field work, a baseline assessment and a pilot community project - none of this would have been possible without the generous support of our donors. During all this time, we have also had volunteers supporting us with documentation and digitisation of data. Every single effort has only added more value to our endeavours and we cannot thank you all enough. We look forward to your continued support and will continue to keep you updated about what is next on our list. Thank You!

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Registered address:

6, CSC, Sector B-1, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070

E mudita@muditafoundation.in W www.muditafoundation.in

M +91-9810015625 / 9971076326