



Annual Report 2024



Introduction

Mission:

Empower marginalized communities through strategic partnerships, social design, technology, and innovation, fostering inclusive development and equal opportunities.

Vision:

Work towards a society where all citizens, especially those with low socio-economic status and belonging to minority groups, have equal opportunities, leading to an empowered, enlightened, and dignified life.

Values:

Inclusivity: Embrace diversity and ensure that every individual, regardless of background, has access to opportunities.

Empowerment: Enable individuals to take control of their lives through education, skill development, and community engagement.

Collaboration: Forge meaningful partnerships with non-profit organizations, universities, and corporations to maximize impact.

Sensitivity: Approach community development with cultural awareness and a deep understanding of social nuances.

Note from Board of Directors

Reflecting on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the remarkable progress made at the Foundation for Equal Citizenship (FFEC). In 2024, we deepened our commitment to empowering women, children, and youth in Trilokpuri, strengthening our projects and expanding their reach. Each initiative has been a step toward building a more equitable and inclusive society, addressing the unique challenges of this vibrant yet underserved community.

This success is a testament to the dedication of our team, the resilience of the Trilokpuri community, and the unwavering support of our partners and funders. From enrolling children in formal education to equipping youth with critical skills, fostering life skills in adolescents, and enhancing maternal and child health, we have worked tirelessly to create meaningful, sustainable change.

We take pride in seeing children thrive with new educational opportunities, mothers and infants benefiting from improved health and nutrition, and youth embracing opportunities for personal growth. Watching children find a safe space in our community center and flourish has been especially rewarding. These transformations remind us why our mission is so vital and drive us to continue our efforts.

As we look ahead, let us stay inspired by the potential of every individual we serve. Together, we can build a brighter and more equitable future for all.

With gratitude,

Board of Directors

About:

Foundation for Equal Citizenship (FFEC), founded in December 2015 and registered in New Delhi under Section 8 (1) of the Companies Act, 2013, operates in the Trilokpuri urban slum of Delhi. This community is home to families from low socio-economic backgrounds, many of whom work as domestic helpers or street vendors, often with limited literacy levels. FFEC is dedicated to empowering women, children, and youth in this marginalized community, aiming to address the unique challenges they face and bring about positive, lasting change for a more equitable and enlightened society.

What sets FFEC apart is its community-driven approach, which emphasizes the leadership of youth and women as active agents of change in their own neighborhoods. This sense of ownership is key to ensuring the sustainability of the initiatives we implement. Rather than focusing on a single domain, such as education, health, or livelihood, our methodology is guided by community needs assessments. We engage directly with the community, collaborating with non-profit organizations, universities, and corporations. This allows us to tailor our efforts to the specific challenges and opportunities in Trilokpuri, ensuring that our initiatives are holistic and have a meaningful impact. By fostering inclusive collaboration, we work towards a future where all citizens—regardless of socio-economic background—can lead dignified and empowered lives.

FFEC has strengthened and streamlined several impactful initiatives, including:

- **Kadam:** Remedial classes for children and adolescents to support their academic development
- **Zarriya:** Equipping youth with skills for personal and professional growth
- **Raah:** Life skills development for adolescents
- **Buniyaad:** Supporting health and nutrition for young women, pregnant and lactating mothers, and infants
- **Roshni:** Ensuring access to formal education and retaining children in schools

These initiatives are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), focusing on holistic community development and targeting the most vulnerable groups, including youth, children, and women.

2 ZERO HUNGER



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



5 GENDER EQUALITY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



OVERVIEW 2024

DIRECT BENEFICIARIES

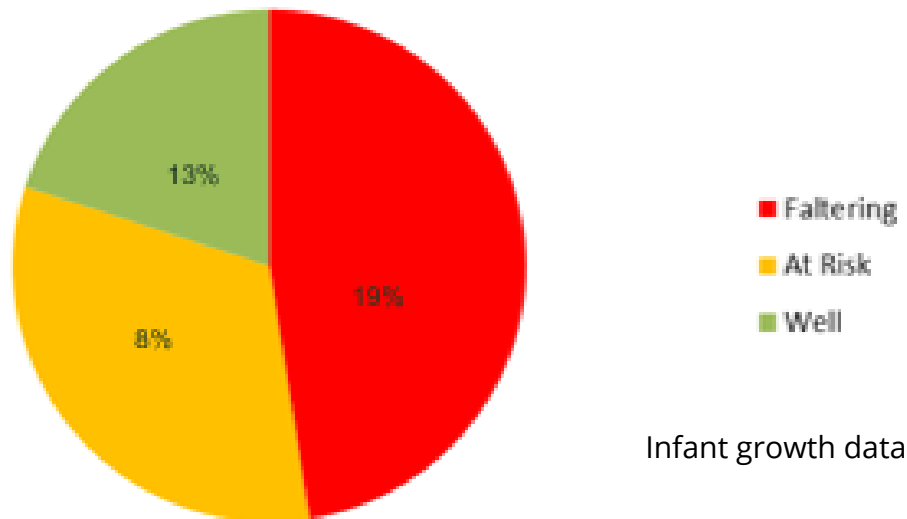
610

**INDIRECT
BENEFICIARIES**

1028

HIGHLIGHTS

Fostering healthy communities from infancy



Launched a **cutting-edge HMF digital platform**; 4 community women trained by HMF to monitor health metrics for infants and pregnant women, enabling early detection of stunting and ensuring timely interventions.

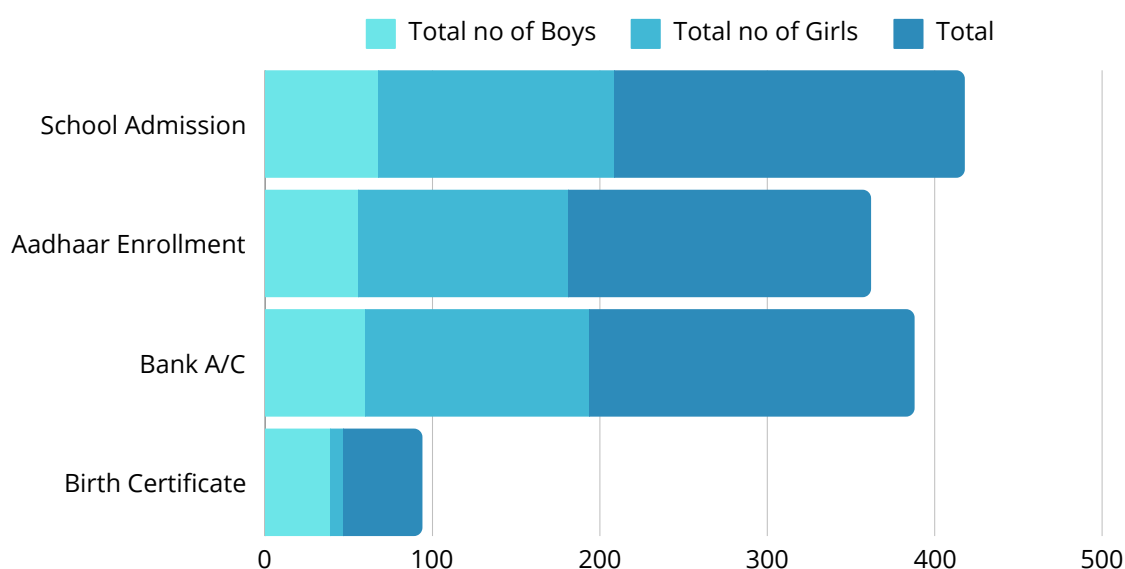
Enrolled **51** infants for continuous health assessments and pregnant women and new mothers for regular health monitoring and education on reproductive health and infant nutrition.

Sensitized **30** women about critical social protection schemes and improved their understanding of nutrition and maternal health through Project Buniyaad workshops.

Organized an eye camp in partnership with Accura Eye Care Hospital attended by 103 people (74% women & girls) out of which 77 had poor eyesight, 23 given glasses.

HIGHLIGHTS

School enrollments and legal identities



Successfully enrolled 209 children (68 boys, 141 girls) into formal education through Project Roshni.

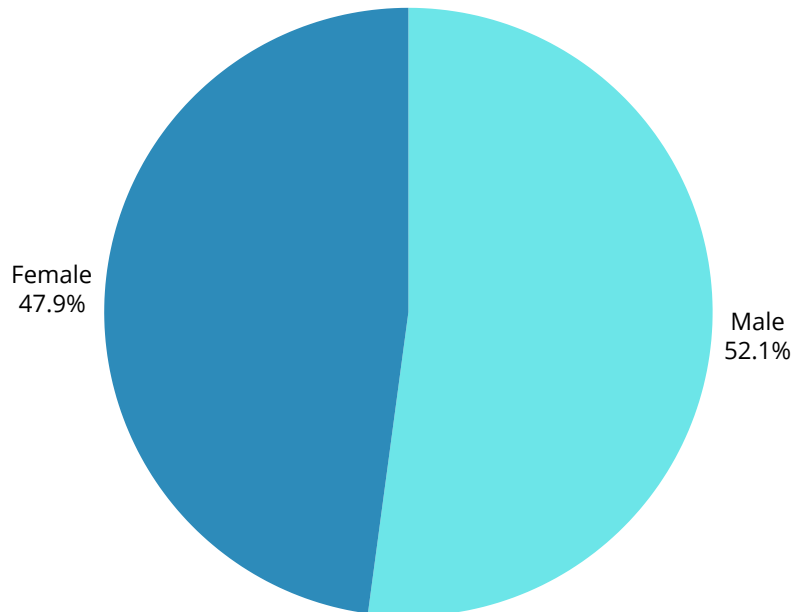
Facilitated Aadhaar enrollment for 181 children (56 boys, 125 girls), enabling access to essential government services.

Opened bank accounts for 194 children (60 boys, 134 girls), fostering financial inclusion and future opportunities.

Secured birth certificates for 47 children (39 boys, 8 girls), providing them with a legal identity and access to rights.

HIGHLIGHTS

Reducing school dropouts and building life & technical skills



Engaged 47.9% female and 52.1% male in remedial classes at the Kadam Learning Centre, significantly enhancing their academic performance.

*Conducted dynamic workshops on videography, art-based expression, creative thinking, critical thinking, empathy, and problem solving, impacting over **50** adolescents under Project Raah, fostering activity-based learning and essential life skills.*

*Enrolled **11** youth in a graphic designing course, equipping them with industry-relevant skills for future employment opportunities.*

*Trained **60** youth in basic computer skills, enhancing their digital literacy and employ-ability in today's competitive landscape.*

A. Project Buniyaad:

Building on the 2023 foundation, **Project Buniyaad** intensifies efforts to tackle women's and children's health needs in Trilokpuri, focusing on reducing early childhood malnutrition for a healthier community. The project, inspired by the proven "Mind Up" model of the Heights and Mind Foundation (HMF), incorporates insights from the Sehat Project to refine its focus. These efforts aim to empower women, particularly those at reproductive age, pregnant women, and lactating mothers, by improving their access to health resources, nutritional education, and essential social protection schemes.

In its inaugural year, Project Buniyaad conducted a baseline survey of 70 women, identifying significant gaps in knowledge and access to health programs like POSHAN. Workshops were launched to address these gaps, educating women on critical topics such as balanced diets during pregnancy, child care, and the role of micronutrients. These workshops, paired with interactive cooking demonstrations at the newly established MindUp Women's Center, fostered practical and sustainable lifestyle changes within the community.

In 2024, the project expanded its scope by integrating technology into its operations. Parallel to conducting workshops, FFEC built the capacity of its women team members by training them to use a digital application for health monitoring and community engagement. This innovation allowed the team to register and monitor children's health metrics effectively, conducting growth assessments every 100 days to track progress. The digital approach enabled timely identification of malnutrition and facilitated interventions, significantly improving outcomes for 69 pregnant women and 51 infants enrolled in the program.

The project also continued its focus on community engagement by linking women to social protection schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Matra Vandana Yojana and Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana. In 2024, 30 women benefited from these initiatives, gaining financial and social security alongside health support.

Project Buniyaad's approach of combining education, capacity-building, and technological innovation has not only strengthened its operational efficiency but has also created a lasting impact on the community. By addressing both immediate health needs and long-term empowerment, the project has laid the groundwork for healthier families and a more informed community.

Continuing our annual eye exam camps, this year it was organized by Accura Eye Care Hospital. It was attended by 103 people (15 men, 11 boys, 60 women and 17 girls). 77 people were detected with poor eyesight and out of which 23 were distributed glasses.

PROJECTS

B. Project Roshni:

The Trilokpuri community faces entrenched barriers to education, with many children unable to access formal schooling due to financial constraints, lack of awareness, and missing legal documentation. These challenges are compounded by systemic issues such as poor retention rates and inadequate support for children who drop out. Recognizing these challenges, Project Roshni was established to ensure access to education for children, equip them with legal identities, and provide them with the necessary resources to thrive.

In 2024, the project enrolled 209 children into formal education, achieving a near-perfect retention rate. This success is attributed to a comprehensive approach that addresses not only enrollment but also the foundational needs of children. For instance, the lack of legal documentation often prevents children from accessing basic rights and services. To address this, Project Roshni facilitated the issuance of 103 Aadhaar cards, opened 156 bank accounts for financial inclusion, and secured 39 birth certificates for children.

Simultaneously, capacity-building sessions were held for young leaders and team members, focusing on the Right to Education Act (2009) and fostering interpersonal relationship skills. These sessions equipped participants with the knowledge and tools to effectively identify and reintegrate dropout children into formal education. This training not only enhances the team's capabilities but also empowers them to actively advocate for the educational rights of children within their community.

To enrich the learning experience and foster retention, Project Roshni integrated art-based education into its elementary classes, promoting creative engagement among students. Additionally, to ensure consistent school attendance, Project Roshni has established strong relationships with both schools and the families of enrolled children. Acting as a mediator, the team conducts door-to-door meetings with parents of children facing challenges with regular attendance, addressing concerns and encouraging continued education.

C. Project Kadam:

In Trilokpuri, where many children face persistent challenges in accessing quality education, Project Kadam addresses critical learning gaps for children aged 6-19 years. Academic struggles often stem from insufficient support systems, language barriers, and the economic necessity for children to contribute to household incomes. These factors can result in poor performance and a lack of confidence, ultimately increasing dropout rates.

In response, Project Kadam provides tailored academic assistance in core subjects such as English, Maths, and Hindi. In 2024, the project enrolled 94 children, offering structured remedial education to help them overcome academic challenges. The initiative focuses on building foundational skills while fostering a supportive environment that encourages consistent learning. Through personalized mentoring, children not only improve their academic performance but also regain confidence in their abilities.

To ensure sustainability, the project strengthens relationships with schools and families, acting as a bridge between them. By closely monitoring attendance and addressing concerns through door-to-door meetings with parents, Project Kadam ensures that children facing challenges are supported both at school and at home. This proactive approach has been instrumental in maintaining steady attendance and nurturing a sense of accountability among all stakeholders.

D. Project Raah:

Adolescence is a transformative period marked by curiosity and self-discovery, yet many youth in Trilokpuri lack the platforms to develop essential life skills. Recognizing this gap, Project Raah was launched to equip adolescents aged 10-15 years with the tools necessary for personal growth and social engagement. In 2024, over 50 adolescents actively participated in creative and interactive workshops designed to enhance critical thinking, self-expression, and problem-solving abilities. These sessions included:

- **Videography:** Led by Yousuf Saeed, students explored storytelling and technical skills to create impactful short films, fostering creativity and confidence.
- **Creative Thinking:** Guided by Hiba Siddiqui, participants learned to approach challenges with innovative solutions, broadening their perspectives.
- **Art-based Expression:** Facilitated by Samina Mishra, students used art and poetry to reflect on themes of identity and freedom, promoting introspection and self-awareness.
- **Critical Thinking:** Facilitated by Hiba Siddiqui, students honed their ability to analyze situations and make informed decisions, building logical reasoning through analytical, creative, reflective, and practical thinking.
- **Empathy:** Guided by Hiba Siddiqui, participants explored understanding others' perspectives and emotions, fostering compassion and stronger connections.
- **Problem Solving:** Led by Hiba Siddiqui, students learned to approach challenges systematically, identifying root causes and crafting effective solutions.

These workshops go beyond skill-building; they empower adolescents to recognize their potential and take proactive steps towards their aspirations. By engaging with diverse forms of expression, participants develop a deeper understanding of themselves and their community, laying the foundation for informed and confident decision-making in their personal and academic lives.

E. Project Zarriya:

In Trilokpuri, unemployment and underemployment among youth remain pressing concerns, driven by limited access to skill development opportunities and professional networks. Project Zarriya was launched to bridge this gap, empowering youth aged 18-25 years with marketable skills and practical experience to enhance their employability.

In 2024, the project partnered with TiFs and FR Enterprise to provide specialized training in areas such as graphic design and basic computer skills. A total of 11 youth enrolled into graphic design courses, while 40 youth gained proficiency in computer basics. These skills not only enhance their technical abilities but also open doors to diverse career opportunities.

To ensure real-world application of these skills, FFEC offered internship and job placement opportunities. By engaging youth in practical projects, they gained hands-on experience, boosting their confidence and readiness for the workforce. This integrated approach ensures that participants transition seamlessly from training to employment, breaking the cycle of economic insecurity and unlocking their potential for a brighter future.

IMPACT

“I feel so relieved to see my son growing and thriving. The sessions have taught me so much about proper nutrition.” – Haseen

Haseen’s transformation journey began when she met FFEC’s dedicated women community leaders. Her 20-month-old son was in the red zone for growth, a critical marker of severe malnourishment. Recognizing the urgency, a community leader from Project Buniyaad encouraged Haseen to attend weekly sessions focused on children with faltering growth.

Guided by the community women leader’s consistent efforts, Haseen adopted the nutritional advice provided, integrating balanced meals and better care practices into her daily routine. Over 100 days, the leader regularly followed up, ensuring Haseen received personalized support. By the next health check-up, her son had progressed to the yellow zone, with visible improvements in his weight and overall health.

The unwavering commitment of the community women leaders not only empowered Haseen to make informed decisions but also inspired hope for her son’s brighter future.



“My daughter is now growing healthy, and I feel confident in the choices I’m making for her.” – Sunita

Sunita’s story exemplifies the positive impact of community-led support. Her 11-month-old daughter was in the yellow zone for growth, requiring intervention to prevent further decline. A Project Buniyaad community leader engaged with Sunita, explaining the importance of early action and encouraging her to attend weekly sessions at the MindUp center.

With the women community leaders' guidance, Sunita learned to prepare nutritious meals and understood the role of a balanced diet in her daughter’s development. The leader consistently checked in with Sunita, offering tailored advice and motivation to sustain her efforts. By the next 100-day health check-up, Sunita’s daughter had moved to the green zone, with marked progress in her height and weight.

The dedication of women community leaders played a pivotal role in empowering Sunita to take charge of her daughter’s health, demonstrating how collective efforts can drive transformative change.



Ishu, a 14-year-old girl from Trilokpuri, is part of the Kadam initiative, which provides remedial classes for children. She lives with her mother, a housewife, and her father, a tailor. Initially struggling with Hindi, English, and Maths at her English-medium girls' school, Ishu lacked the support at home to improve.

Since joining Kadam, Ishu's academic performance has drastically improved. With personalized attention, she gained confidence in Hindi, enhanced her English skills, and excelled in Maths. The remedial classes helped her understand the subjects better, which led to greater participation in school.

Her story is a shining example of how young teachers of Kadam Learning centre are helping children break barriers and realize their potential.

Ankita (9-year-old girl), Raaj (8-year-old boy), and Jigar (5-year-old boy) live in Trilokpuri with their mother, a housewife, and father, an unskilled laborer. Their story is one of many similar ones in the community, where children face barriers due to the lack of official documentation. This prevented them from getting admitted to school and accessing government educational benefits.

With FFEC's support, the children now have birth certificates, Aadhaar cards, and bank accounts. This allowed them to secure school admissions and benefit from Indian government policies, including financial aid for their education.



Collaborations





All of this is made possible by your support !

In 2024, we focused on quality execution, building on the structured foundation established last year. This progress was made possible by the unwavering dedication of our staff, the support of our volunteers, the strength of new partnerships, and the generous contributions from our funders.

Your continued support enables us to empower vulnerable communities and create meaningful, sustainable change. Together, we can achieve even more in the years to come.

For your convenience, here are our account details:

Account Details: Name – FOUNDATION FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP

Bank Name: Axis Bank

Branch: Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi

Account No – 915020061799917

IFSC CODE – UTIB0001358

Donate Online: <https://foundationforequalcitizenship.org/donations/>

Thank you for your ongoing support. Annual reports are a vital aspect of our transparency and accountability to stakeholders and regulatory bodies, ensuring our commitment to fulfilling our mission.

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