



"We need to uphold the equal rights, voices and influence of girls in our families, communities and nations. Girls can be powerful agents of change, and nothing should keep them from participating fully in all areas of life." ~ António Guterres, UN Secretary-General

Here's to celebrating girls everywhere!

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Shilpa\*, 13, lives in Mumbai with her elder brother and parents. Her father owns a tailoring business, while her mother is a teacher. When she joined the after-school programme at Oasis, Shilpa found it difficult to adjust to the rules and discipline that the tutors taught them. She often spoke back to them and exhibited behavioural problems that affected her performance in school and those around her.



In counselling, the tutors found that Shilpa was just replicating what she witnessed at

home. Many children in communities like Kamathipura often adopt the words, actions and values that they see around them. Shilpa did not know what she was doing was wrong because for her that was a norm. With continuous counselling and life skills, the tutors helped her understand what good values and good manners are.

The tutors are glad that they can see changes in her over the past few months. Shilpa has joined the change agents group where she attends meetings regularly. In these meetings they teach them life skills such as helping others, good behaviour, time management and how to have a positive impact in the life of others. Shilpa also influences her friends in school and children from the red-light area to join the after-school programme and also teaches them the life-skills that she learns at the hub.

\*name changed

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At Oasis, we have programmes that enhance and empower girls in the most powerful way possible. Some of the major issues that young girls face in our communities today are sexual abuse, gender inequality and child marriage. To combat these issues we work with children in the after-school programme. This is done through the holistic education model which enables children, especially girls to receive an overall growth in academics and personal development. We encourage them in sports, health, academics, life skills and more. Proving that #GirlsCan do and be what they want.



#GirlsCan receive education.

Picture from after-school programme in Hallegudadhahalli, Bangalore







#GirlsCan play sports.

Picture of sports training for girls in the Stanley Nagar School at Basin Bridge,  
Chennai

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At Punganur, we have opened a new hub in Muthukur village which is 7 kilometers away from the Potter's Wheel Campus. There are various programmes here including the after-school programme. Sowjanya, a 4th grade student, struggled with her studies at school. Her mother who was part of the tailoring programme at Oasis wanted Sowjanya to continue her education no matter what. This is because she knew the importance of education for girls through the awareness sessions at the hub.



Sowjanya's mother requested for her daughter to be a part of the after-school programme for children at Oasis. Her daughter found it difficult to cope with her studies. The tutors supported her to learn Math and other difficult subjects through activity-based learning. The tutors found that although Sowjanya is a good learner, she did not perform well in her studies

due to the lack of individual attention.

Many children especially girls in Muthukur village drop out of school at an early age. According to the statistics from the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, around 63.5 percentage of female students in India quit school during adolescence to do household work or for marriage. If not for Sowjanya's mother's efforts, she would have quit school too. What Sowjanya has learnt from her mother, she will grow up to teach her generation and the next.

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