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ANNUAL REPORT 2025/2026

# India: Rainbow Homes Shelter, education and opportunities for street girls

In the school year 2025/2026, Rainbow Homes, implemented through Loreto Rainbow Homes in Kolkata and Aman Vedika Rainbow Home in Hyderabad, continued its mission to provide a safe, healthy and nurturing environment for vulnerable children and young adults. Through residential care, family support and transition programmes, the project helped children and youth move from situations of vulnerability towards safety, education, wellbeing and greater independence. This report highlights the key achievements and impact of the programme during the reporting period.

## Impact & Achievements



251 girls received residential care, including safe accommodation, nutritious meals, education, healthcare and emotional support



100 children were supported through Community Based Care programmes, helping families strengthen care and protection while ensuring children remained in education



171 young adults participated in Futures Programmes, receiving life skills training, vocational education, career guidance and transition support



23 young women secured paid employment, mostly in hospitality and healthcare sectors



12 young adults received educational scholarships, supporting their continued education and professional development



Children achieved success at national level competitions, including gold in sailing, selection for a national throwball championship and first place in a national essay competition

### **A Safe Place to Grow**

The residential homes provided 251 girls with a safe, nurturing and child friendly environment. Children received nutritious meals, healthcare, clothing, hygiene products and emotional support throughout the year. All children attended school and benefited from tutoring, remedial education and individual learning support where needed. Beyond the classroom, girls participated in sports, arts, cultural activities, self-defense training and leadership programmes that strengthened their confidence and wellbeing. Regular health screenings, eye and dental checkups, nutrition monitoring and counselling services helped ensure children remained healthy and supported.

### **Strengthening Families and Communities**

The Community Based Care programme supported 100 children living with families or guardians who remain vulnerable to poverty, neglect or social exclusion. The programme focused on education, child protection and family strengthening. Children received academic support, health services and life skills training, while parents and caregivers participated in meetings on child rights, education, government services and positive parenting practices. These interventions helped strengthen family support systems and reduce risks that could lead to family separation.

### **Building Independent Futures**

The Futures Programme supported 171 adolescents and young adults as they prepared for independent living. Participants received career guidance, vocational training, internships, digital literacy and employability support. 23 young women successfully secured jobs in hospitality and healthcare, marking an important step towards financial independence. Young adults also participated in workshops on workplace readiness, financial literacy and digital skills. Twelve participants received scholarships to support further education and professional development.

### **Growing Capacity and Partnerships**

Rainbow Homes continued to invest in programme quality through staff training, improved digital reporting systems and stronger partnerships with schools, government agencies, volunteers and local supporters. A new bus donated by a local foundation improved transportation for education, healthcare and programme activities. Partnerships with donors, community organisations and volunteers provided additional educational, health and scholarship opportunities for children and young adults.

### **Family Engagement**

Regular meetings with parents and caregivers helped raise awareness of child rights, education, health, nutrition and available government services. Families were encouraged to play an active role in their children's development and wellbeing, strengthening the support systems around vulnerable children.



**Girls in their dorm**



**Child with caregiver**



**A teacher with three Rainbow girls**

### **Challenges and Lessons Learned**

Despite the strong progress achieved during the year, the programme continued to face challenges in responding to the complex needs of vulnerable children and young people. Some children required additional counselling, mentoring and academic support, while maintaining safe facilities and meeting increasing administrative demands linked to government reporting systems also required significant staff time and resources. Through strong teamwork and collaboration with schools, hospitals, volunteers and government authorities, these challenges were effectively addressed throughout the year.

### **Story of Change**

Rameeza Bhanu's journey demonstrates the transformative impact of Rainbow Homes. As a young child, she lived on the streets and experienced neglect, violence and extreme hardship. After joining Aman Vedika Rainbow Home in Hyderabad, she found safety, stability and the opportunity to pursue her education and interests. Through determination and dedicated coaching, Rameeza discovered a passion for sailing. Within just eighteen months, she progressed from a complete beginner to winning a gold medal at the prestigious Monsoon Regatta and representing India internationally. Today, she dreams of building a career in sports and helping vulnerable children in the future. Her story shows how care, protection and opportunity can help children overcome adversity and build a future filled with hope and possibility.



**Rameeza Bee receiving Gold Medal  
from Governor of Telangana**