

CARING the UNCARED

Helping Hand
and a Ray of Hope



**Mahesh
Foundation**
We Care for Uncared

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



It has been a year of unprecedented challenges and working against the odds. The pandemic took a heavy toll on life, livelihood and health. Covid 19 posed a special health challenge to the children especially HIV-infected children because of their greater vulnerability and less immune system to be exposed to this contagious disease. With the situation being worse in smaller cities and rural areas, the government has enforced lockdown across the country which led to a lack of transportation and access to basic needs. Even facing challenges to earn their livelihood. In this unprecedented time, our first priority was to ensure the safety of the children. Our premises was shut down but we continued to work by supporting the suffering needy. In this period, we have supported 20000+ People Living with HIV in rural areas by providing healthcare at the doorstep.

After the end of the first phase of the pandemic, we resumed our programs and started our skill-based education that helped 1300 underprivileged children to acquire skills such as computer education, art & craft, and more. After the reopening of the schools, we also distributed school kits to around 1400+ children. Meanwhile, as the world shifted to a virtual landscape, the children are trained and equipped with digital resources for their learning.

Our staff, volunteers and teachers are at the frontline of our ecosystem. They have shown tremendous zeal and enthusiasm in transforming the lives of HIV-infected and underprivileged children we work with.

Our story is incomplete without making a mention of our supportive donors -individuals, foundations, as well as Corporates who backed us even when they were facing challenges in this hard time. Many of them have been with us for over 10 years. Their faith and confidence in us have enabled our journey so far. As we progress our aim remains intact –enabling medically challenged and underprivileged children an independent and dignified life.

Mahesh Jadhav

Founder, Mahesh Foundation

MAHESH FOUNDATION AT GLANCE

OUR VISION & MISSION

To **realize** a world without the Stigma & Discrimination attached to HIV/AIDS & empowering Children afflicted with this disease.

To **enable** medically challenged and underprivileged children to live an independent and dignified life.

Mahesh Foundation has been working for the welfare of HIV-positive and underprivileged children for the past 13 years. The Foundation is providing shelter, nutrition, healthcare, and education to HIV-positive and underprivileged children. Our core focus over the last decade has been to provide education to these children so that they live dignified lives.

In the past 13 years, the Foundation’s Care Home has directly benefited over 700 girls and 1100 boys. Our Community Support program has impacted the lives of 32000 HIV-infected socially disadvantaged families. Also, raised awareness among more than 3 lakh school and college students. The Foundation commenced a school, “Utkarsha” for HIV-positive special children as well as underprivileged children in 2018 and benefited around 1300 HIV-positive and underprivileged children.

In more than a decade of the fruitful journey, it was realized that imparting skills is most important for these children to become self-sustained. So, Mahesh Foundation started providing skill-based education such as computers, art & craft, theater, dance and more to them as well as the government school children who are unfortunate enough to get it in their schools.

Mahesh Foundation started initiatives during the year 2020-21. The donation box campaign is a program that encourages people to contribute to society. Prayatna... for a better society is an endeavor to extend a helping hand to the needy to meet their various needs like education, healthcare and more.

SURVIVING **THE WORST**

TOGETHER WE CAN **HELP STOP THE SPREAD**

COVID -19 has impacted billions of lives around the globe. Government, Individuals, Businesses and civil society organizations are battling to save lives. During these unprecedented times, the role of NGOs has become paramount in combating the coronavirus and its impacts on society's most vulnerable populations, especially in countries and regions where government services are struggling like in India. For the grassroots Organizations, like Mahesh Foundation the pandemic has imposed multiple challenges which include all aspects of its work - from running programs, planning finances, exploring resources, arranging logistics, meeting the urgent needs of the targeted people, managing human resources, staffing and safety motivation of implementation team and most importantly the budgetary constraints and uncertainties.





“Progress Towards LIGHT and HOPE”

Any community is not lonely in the fight against COVID-19, triumph over the pandemic is not impossible once 130 crore Indians unite against it. Amid the darkness spread by the pandemic, we must continuously progress toward light and hope. We must support those most affected by the crisis by spreading the glory of light tonight at 9 PM for 9 valuable minutes. Used Diya and Candles, and spread the light in all 4 directions. Through this, the children passed a message that we Indians are united against the Corona pandemic.

Humanity towards Community

The founder visited slums to evaluate the situation of dwellers and to support them by fulfilling their basic needs in critical situations. The people in these slums are daily wage workers and lock-down has adversely affected their earnings. All 200 families are suffering to make ends meet. To fulfill their basic needs for a meal, we distributed the grocery kits to these families.

COVID-19 awareness session

The world-famous Professional Photographer Mr. Vicky Roy was live on Mahesh Foundation's Instagram page to raise awareness on COVID-19 and its precautions. During his awareness session he informed the importance of Why people should wear MASKS. Masks are a key measure to reduce transmission and save lives. Wearing well-fitted masks should be used as part of a comprehensive 'Do it all!' approach including maintaining physical distancing, avoiding crowded, closed and close-contact settings, ensuring good ventilation of indoor spaces, cleaning hands regularly, and covering sneezes and coughs with a tissue or bent elbow.

Stay Clean, Stay Safe

As a precautionary measure against the COVID-19 pandemic, Mahesh Foundation sealed down and prohibited the outsiders into the premises. The children are less immune and any disease can easily infect them. The whole premise has been cleaned regularly and sanitized to maintain cleanliness and hygiene in the premise.

Healthcare at the Doorstep

HIV positive people couldn't visit hospitals and get their medicines. There is no transportation to travel to the hospitals so, our Mahesh Foundation team has reached their doorstep to supply the needed medication.

HEALTH



Healthy citizens are
the greatest asset
any country can have.



-Winston Churchill

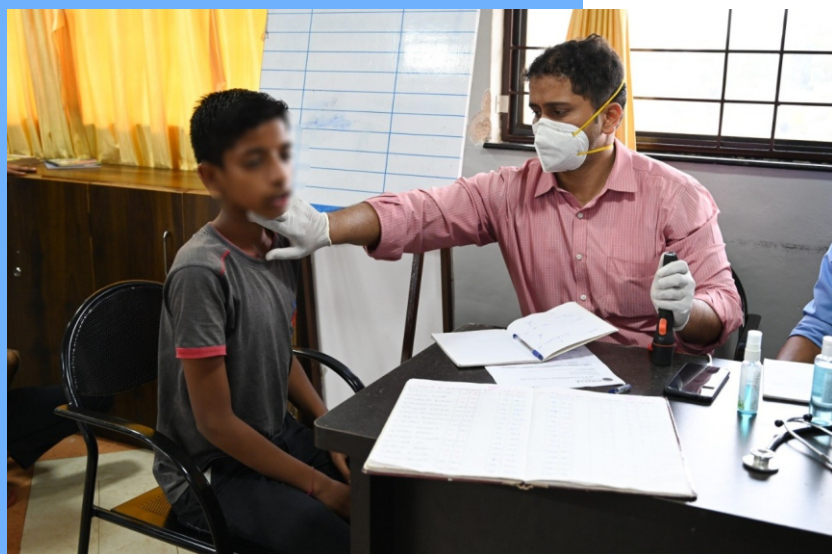
ASHAKIRAN Our Care Home

The project focuses mainly on Orphan, Semi Orphan and Destitute Children who are affected or infected by HIV AIDS and referred through the ARTC center or by any Child Welfare Committee in Karnataka. Due to death of HIV/AIDS infected and affected persons, Re-marriage of deserted / widowed/divorced women, absence of love and security in the families, Family disputes, Unwanted pregnancy of trafficked / Sexually exploited girls; these orphans and are sometimes left in the streets without care and support.

Thus, most of the children end up as rag pickers, pickpockets and indulge in various anti-social & even criminal activities. Keeping the vision in mind to provide care, support & protection to these children in their formative years so that they become productive citizens of tomorrow, all the necessary arrangements like School, tuition, nutritious food, healthy shelter (etc) are properly in place.

The shelter home is currently located at Siddheshwar Nagar, Kanabargi, Belagavi, Karnataka State, with 45 children sheltered in the Child Care Home with 3 residential staff and 5 non-residential staff members working in it.

We have reached more than 1800+ HIV-infected children to support their education, healthcare, and other basic needs that help them shape a bright future. We have been providing nutrition, healthcare, and education in our care home. Many children who enrolled in our care home are living healthy and independent lives.



Every month, we conduct a health assessment of the children to ensure that they are fit and healthy. Dr. Amey Usulkar, our medical In-charge has assessed the health of the children.



Blood Donation Camp:

Blood donation is one of the best social helps one can do. Mahesh Foundation in collaboration with The Belgaum Aqua Valves Pvt. Ltd organized a blood donation camp.



ChildLine Child rights awareness program:

The ChildLine team organized the Child Rights Awareness program at Mahesh Foundation. District Magistrate Shri. Vijay Devaraj Urs, ChildLine Coordinator Shri. M. K. Kunderagi, member of CWC Mr. F. S. Patil, member of Child Rights Protection Committee Mrs. Bharati Valvekar, and others were present.

EDUCATION

EDUCATION is all a matter of BUILDING BRIDGES

UTKARSHA LEARNING CENTER

A special school that teaches first-generation learners how to learn.

A school for medically challenged and underprivileged children. The school provides a learning environment that is free from discrimination. Constituted some committees such as sports, health, education, and food among others. 5 children were included in each group. This will give a piece of knowledge about the committee and the responsibilities that children should know. Utkarsha Learning Center is well-equipped with the facilities required to ensure international quality education.

With the support of individuals and corporate investors, we have created the best-in-class infrastructure, suited for first-generation learners. We at Utkarsh stand by its values and we are committed to providing the best education to the disadvantaged, underprivileged & neglected children of the society.

Utkarsha's Activities:

Commemorating Kargil Diwas:

Kargil war has been one of the greatest wars that were fought by India. Many brave soldiers were martyred in the war. At Mahesh Foundation the children commemorated their martyrdom and paid tribute to the brave soldiers.

Diksha online classes:

Children at Mahesh Foundation's care home have attended the online classes of DIKSHA under the guidance of social worker Ashwini Naganur. As schools are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



ADHAR VIDHYA PROGRAM



EDUCATION

is the best friend.
an educated person is
respected everywhere.

**EDUCATION BEATS
THE BEAUTY AND YOUTH."**

Doubtless, education is the most powerful catalyst for social transformation. But, there is enormous inequality in access to quality education in India, resulting in massive inequality of opportunity for children. There are many unmet needs for basic learning material among the children.

Mahesh Foundation aims to make less privileged children self-reliant and lead a dignified life in the future. To date, Mahesh Foundation is externally supporting more than 7,000 children to get an education through the community program.

School Kit Distribution

In collaboration with Touch Foundation Mumbai, we distributed school kits to the children studying in Alataga and Ninganatti Government School, Belagavi. Around 200 children benefited from this initiative. We have been supporting this school for the past 8 years.



Impact

With all our benefactors We have been able to touch the lives of more than 7,000 children through this initiative. Many slum-dwelling children have completed their education and are working in various institutions or preparing for competitive exams like civil services.



THE SCHOOL IN THE CLOUD

The School in the cloud is an initiative inspired by Mr. Sugata Mitra, a professor of Educational Technology. This helps them in self-organized learning with digital technology. There are no facilities for the latest technology in the homes of these children. The School in the cloud is needed for such children. So, Mahesh Foundation had planned to set up a lab in the cloud that impacts the learning of children who lack such privileges at home.

Impact:

This is an innovative way of learning which helps students in **SELF ORGANIZED LEARNING**.

This helps the HIV-infected children who have been provided shelter at Mahesh Foundation, slum children who are learning in Utkarsha Learning Center and 500-600 children to explore new things by themselves. Using technology children can communicate with other communities. These resources are used well to learn new things.



EDUCATION IS TRANSFORMATIONAL.

Let's make this education accessible to underserved children creating a **BETTER ENVIRONMENT** for them



SCHOOL ADOPTION PROGRAM

The number of children studying in government schools is higher than the private schools. Despite government efforts to transform the government schools, the schools are lacking infrastructure facilities and that leads to failure to attract the students to government schools as well as to provide quality education to needy children. The objective of this initiative is to strengthen the infrastructure and education quality of these schools.

During the year 2020-21, we were intended to reach 7000 underprivileged children under various educational programs. As we all know, the deadly COVID-19 pandemic has forced schools to remain closed for a long time. So, we have paused our educational programs until the schools reopen.



BUILDING THE FUTURE OUR HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE



There is immense power when
a group of people with similar
interests gets together to work
toward the same goals



-Idowu Koyenikan

Ministry of Finance officers visit:

Dr. Harsha R. Deputy Director Ministry of Finance, Mr. S. F. Halkurki Senior Intelligence Officer Ministry of Finance, the Government of India with their team visited Mahesh Foundation.

ChildLine officials visit:

CHILDLINE organization members from Belagavi and Chennai visited Mahesh Foundation. CHILDLINE works for the protection of the rights of children and their care and protection. They evaluated the facilities provided to the children.

Vishwaguru Bharatha Pratistana, is an organization that took birth in Davangere with a motive to uplift the deprived children of society. This organization started a children's care home "Prerana Makkala Sansthe" This organization is in its initial stages. They were humble enough to approach us and seek our guidance.

NIOS Officials visit: Delegates of NIOS Bangalore Mr. Arun Kumar & Mrs. Swatikamal Walve visited Mahesh Foundation for the evaluation of our education system and school infrastructure.

Smart City Software manager visit: The Software Manager of Belagavi Smart City Ltd Shri. Satish Singh and Company Secretary of Belagavi Smart City Limited Shri. Muralidharan D. Shet had visited

Mahesh Foundation. They praised the work of Mahesh Foundation for the welfare of HIV-infected and underprivileged children.

CWD Visit: Coordinator of Child Welfare Department Shri. Sachin Hiremath and Counselor Shri. Mahesh visited the Mahesh Foundation. They were overjoyed to see the facilities provided to the children and praised the work of Mahesh Foundation

Interaction with Indo-Schottle Team: Founder Mahesh Jadhav visited Indo-Schottle. The company has been associated with Mahesh Foundation in benefiting thousands of children by supporting their education. Indo Schottle has supported Mahesh Foundation in constructing the new premise for the dormitory and school.

MEMORIES MADE - THE MAGIC TOUCH

Ganesh Chaturthi:

Ganesh is a Lord of Knowledge and wisdom. We at Mahesh Foundation have celebrated the auspicious Ganesh festival. Children were very enthusiastic in welcoming Ganesh. After devotional worship of Lord Ganesh, children at Mahesh Foundation immersed the Ganesh idol.

Catalysts for Social Action (CSA):

Child Care Institutions (CCIs) play a significant role in providing care and support to vulnerable children in India. As a result of the COVID crisis, the role of CCIs in child protection is likely to be more crucial than ever before. Discussed the CCI to provide family-like care to children, the challenges they face, how they overcome them in the COVID-19.

World AIDS Observation:

The Mahesh Foundation observed World AIDS Day. Noted businessman Shri Mallikarjun Jagajampi and BIMS staff and Social Activist Shri. Anil Bhosale was the chief guest for the occasion. Also, observed World AIDS Day at Gokak Care and Support Center (CSC) and raised awareness about HIV/AIDS.

Shivaji Kaka session:

Shivaji Kagnikar, the simplest and humble human being regularly visits Mahesh Foundation and spends his precious time with the children. He teaches something to them and learns something from them.

Christmas Celebration:

Spending time with Santa is a kind of happiness. He brings smiles to our faces and that is one of the biggest gifts that we receive. A surprise was waiting for our children. Santa visited and entertained the children. He presented gifts to the children. The children were delighted to see Santa and enjoyed it a lot with him.

SK Consultancy:

SK Consultancy has organized a fundraising webinar KEYS TO TRANSFORMATION. It has a specific registration fee and it will be considered a donation and directly come to the Mahesh Foundation for the welfare of needy children.





Established Vertical Garden

We completed vertical garden work and the children started planting different types of flower saplings. They regularly give water and take all the necessary care to grow the plants affectionately.

Gardening:

During the lockdown, the children spent some time planting the saplings in pots and now made them colorful by painting them with colors. They always involve themselves in activities and spend their day doing such little things which make a big difference in their lives in the future.

GATHER TO LEARN



**We are the next generation!
What we learn,**

IS OUR CREATION

Participating in extracurricular activities is a great way to widen the children's social circle, expand their interests, and build leadership skills. Beyond demonstrating children's interests and individuality, extracurricular activities prove they can make meaningful contributions, maintain a commitment, and manage their time and priorities.

Computer Classes:

During the lockdown, children are learning some new things about computers from computer education. They are being taught things like 3D art, the creation of letterhead among others. This is the perfect time for them to learn such things and they are utilizing this time.

Monthly Meeting:

We, at Mahesh Foundation, conduct a meeting for the children every month to provide a platform to express their thoughts, and ideas and to share the difficulties and challenges that are facing them.

The children shared their suggestions on the amenities provided to them and their needs in the coming days. Given attention to the challenges faced by children.

Art & craft:

Children at Mahesh Foundation enjoy Art & Craft, the creative minds made innovative wall art using craft paper to beautify the school premises. Our children have enjoyed and have learned the art of crafting very interestingly. We have published a few pictures displaying the interest of the kids while learning the art.

Sports:

Sports play a vital role in keeping the children active and mentally sharp as well as increasing their performance in school. As a part of education, we conducted sports for the children of Utkarsha Learning Center.



Composting

Dr. Aarati Bhandare conducted a workshop on composting, a method of waste management and reduction. It brings awareness about the scientific method of managing waste and making it recycle. The children at Mahesh Foundation started implementing this method on our premises.

Jnanpith Awardees:

The children at Mahesh Foundation performed the act of Jnanpith awardee literature and introduced their work and contribution to Kannada. They played the roles of eight Jnanpith awardees



NEW LAUNCHES

A PASSION TO HELP. THE ABILITY TO DELIVER



The Beginning of a new PRAYATNA for a better society:

PRAYATNA is an initiative to support the underprivileged people who are in desperate need of support for various causes. This initiative intends to support people who are struggling to meet their requirements like education, medical, and more.

Prayatna Website Launch:

Prayatna website launching ceremony organized at Mahesh Foundation premises on the occasion of National Youth Day and Swami Vivekananda Jayanti. The website was launched by young leaders and Directors of Satish Sugars Mr. Rahul Jarkiholi and Miss. Priyanka Jarkiholi.



New girls hostel construction:

Performed Bhoomi Pooja for the construction of the new hostel building for girls and additional classrooms on the special occasion of International Women's Day. This newly proposed land is located beside our existing premises.

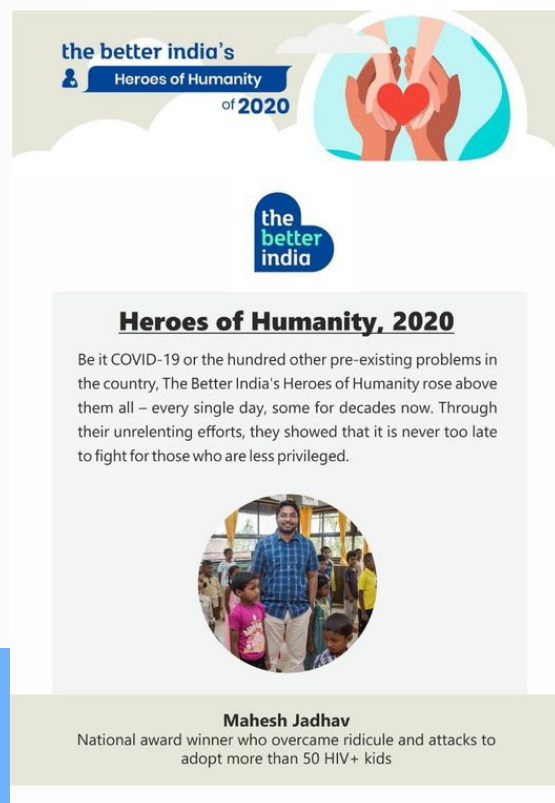


Small hands can make a big difference:

Children themselves take this GIVING BOX initiative to support underprivileged children. Through this campaign, we are developing social responsibility among the children. They save some of their money from pocket money and donate in the donation box regularly.



WALL OF FAME



Founder, Mahesh Jadhav was honored to be one of the achievers selected by UTTARA KARNATAKA BALAGA, QATAR. He was honored as an achiever for his contribution to society.

Heroes of Humanity:

The Better India is an Indian digital media platform focused on positive stories. Every year, they honor the top 10 changemakers in the country. Founder Mahesh Jadhav was honored for the humanitarian services rendered to HIV-infected and underprivileged children.

Vihaan Prize:

A proud and delightful moment for Mahesh Foundation, as Alliance India and NACO (National AIDS Control Organization) awarded our Gokak Care and Support Center first prize among the CSCs in Karnataka and also honored as the best CSC.

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Seva Award:

On the occasion of the 125th Birth Anniversary of freedom fighter Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Co-Op Credit Society honored Mahesh Jadhav for the services rendered to the society and bestowed with Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Seva award.

My Hero My Story Award:

Founder Mahesh Jadhav was featured in Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance Limited's My Hero My Story.

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT



Engaging the hearts, minds,
and hands of talent is the most
sustainable source of
competitive advantage.

-Greg Harris.

Modern organizations are moving towards more sustainable models by utilizing the power of employees and volunteers to attain their objectives. Organizations are engaging their employees and volunteers in various activities to ensure their level of commitment towards the Organization's Vision and Mission.

Mahesh Foundation is like a family and such members like Prakash Mama whose day starts at 7 am and ends at 6 pm are giving their best for the development of the organization.

He has been associated with us for the past many years in service of these children. We fondly call him Mama (Uncle). We are proud to have such dedicated people like Prakash Mama. And he was honored as Best Employee for his dedicated work.

Birthday Celebration of Employees:

Mahesh Foundation is like a family. Each employee is treated as a family member. So, we celebrate the employees' birthdays at the foundation. We wish them and provide some benefits on their birthday.



AMBITIONS

Girls Hostel

At Mahesh Foundation we have provided separate facilities for boys and girls in the same premises. It contains all amenities that children need. But, the Child Welfare Department has directed all the Child Care Institutions in India to maintain separate premises for the boys and girls and this made us build new premises. If we fail to do so, then we have to send either girls or boys back to the home. As the children are orphans and abandoned by their relatives, it will be difficult for them to lead their life.

Hence, we have decided to construct new premises for girls for their accommodation. With the support of many corporations, we are able to complete the construction, now we are seeking support for basic facilities for the children. This new premises will benefit more than 250 girl children to get free Shelter, Education, Medical Support and Nutrition.

Skill Development Center

To encourage skills among medically challenged and underprivileged women and girls, we are building a skill center. This will benefit the unemployed unskilled women and girls who are illiterate or college dropouts.

To empower 200 underprivileged women and school dropout girls through skill development training in selected market-driven courses such as basic Computers, Tailoring, Art & Craft and communication & Soft skills. Further, the project would help increase employment opportunities for these underprivileged girls and women.





STORIES OF CHANGE

Yallappa Kudari:

Yallappa Kudari hails from an economically poor family In Gokak, Belagavi. At a very young age, he lost his parents and came under the care of his aunt. Because of her immense responsibility and poverty, she fails to provide him with proper nutrition, medication and much-needed resources for his education.

Yallappa was enrolled in Mahesh Foundation with the hope of proper care and education. He was taken care of by providing all the facilities he need and ensured skill-based education. He studied with utmost dedication and completed Industrial Training Course (ITI).

He left the care home after completing his ITI and joined a well-known Sugar Manufacturing Industry in Belagavi, leading an independent and dignified life.

"I love being courageous, determined and steadfast in the goals that take me further in my life. The care, support and guidance of the Mahesh Foundation helped me to steer forward and I found a new meaning in life".

- Yallappa Kudari

Pooja Bandiwaddar:

Being a medically challenged girl, Pooja Bandiwaddar's journey that she is today was not easy. While HIV/AIDS is considered stigma and discrimination by society, Mahesh Foundation believed in her ability. She is medically challenged since birth and also her parents. Because of their unstable health condition, they were unable to provide much-needed nutrition and education.

So, her parents enrolled her in Mahesh Foundation's Ashakiran care home. Pooja was positive that this would be the right place for her. Mahesh Foundation provided her with the platform which helped her study, develop skills, and become self-sustained. She was taken care of by Mahesh Foundation providing nutrition, healthcare as well as timely counseling and moral support.

Pooja completed her Secondary Education and she was post-integrated into her family. Currently, Pooja runs a dairy business for her livelihood. Also, she got married.

"I am happy to be at Mahesh Foundation. I can access the facilities here and train for my future. I am grateful to everyone at Mahesh Foundation who never stopped believing in me."

- Pooja Bandiwaddar





Our CSR Partners



Our Program Partners



**Be the Energy
you want to Attract**



We believe with the help of many supporters, we could be able to make an impact on the lives of these needy people.

Our sincere thanks to all the supporters for their generous support. We look forward to extend our humanitarian services to more people.



Mahesh
Foundation

We care for Uncared

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Our Programs

- Ashakiran
- Utkarsha Learning Center
- Aadhar Vidya Program
- Aadhar Villages Program
- Aadhar Mahila Udyog
- GrameenKart
- Prayatna
- MyBlood - Blood Bank

Upcoming Project

- Mahesh Foundation Charitable Hospital