



the
KIRAN ANJALI
PROJECT

ANNUAL
REPORT
2024

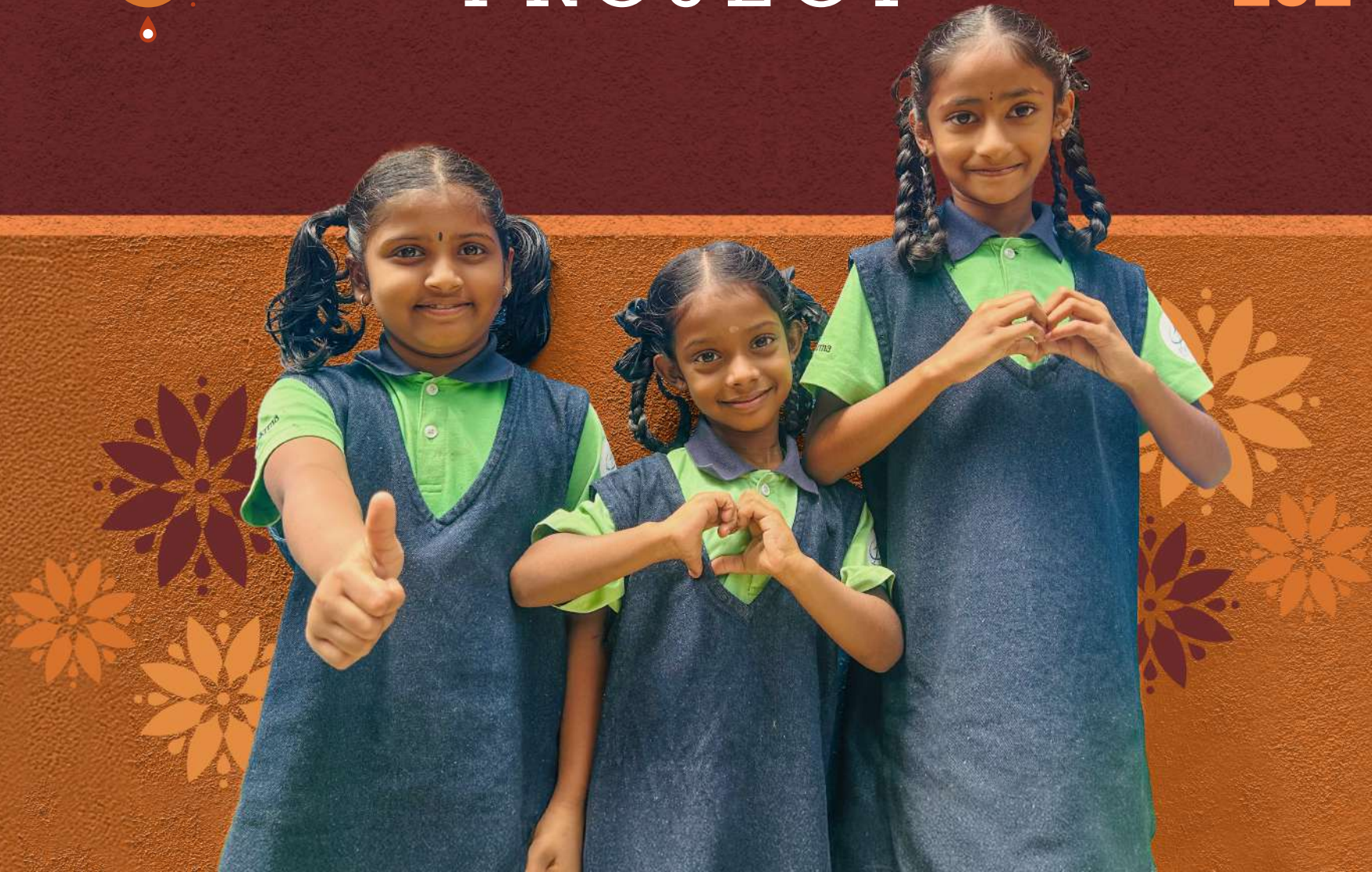


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About

At the Kiran Anjali Project (KAP), we believe education is the most powerful way to empower girls in India. It is the key to breaking barriers, transforming lives, and creating brighter futures. The programs we invest in not only provide quality academic access and support, but also address social, cultural, and economic factors like dowry, gender bias, malnutrition, early marriage, trafficking, and child labor. Our partnerships reflect our deep commitment to ensuring girls' educational and career opportunities. By building girls' knowledge, skills, and confidence, we help them pursue their dreams and become agents of change in their communities—building a stronger, more positive future for all.

This impact is why we focus on girls.

Vision

An India where all girls have an equal opportunity to quality education.

Mission

To invest in educational programs in India to equip girls to define their own destiny. We envision a bias free world in which all children are given a high-quality education and job skills to be self-sufficient.





Diversity and Equity

Every girl in India has the right to equal access to education, regardless of her socio-economic background, religion, caste, or ethnicity. By fostering diversity and equity, we can create a more just and equitable society where every girl can realize her full potential.



Resilience

We recognize that the path to success is often fraught with challenges, setbacks, and obstacles, and we remain steadfast in our commitment to overcome them. We are adaptable and agile in responding to changing circumstances, and continuously seek innovative and efficient ways to improve our programs and services.



Integrity

We are committed to upholding the highest standards of integrity, respect, and transparency in everything we do and with everyone with whom we interact. We welcome feedback and constructive criticism to improve our work.



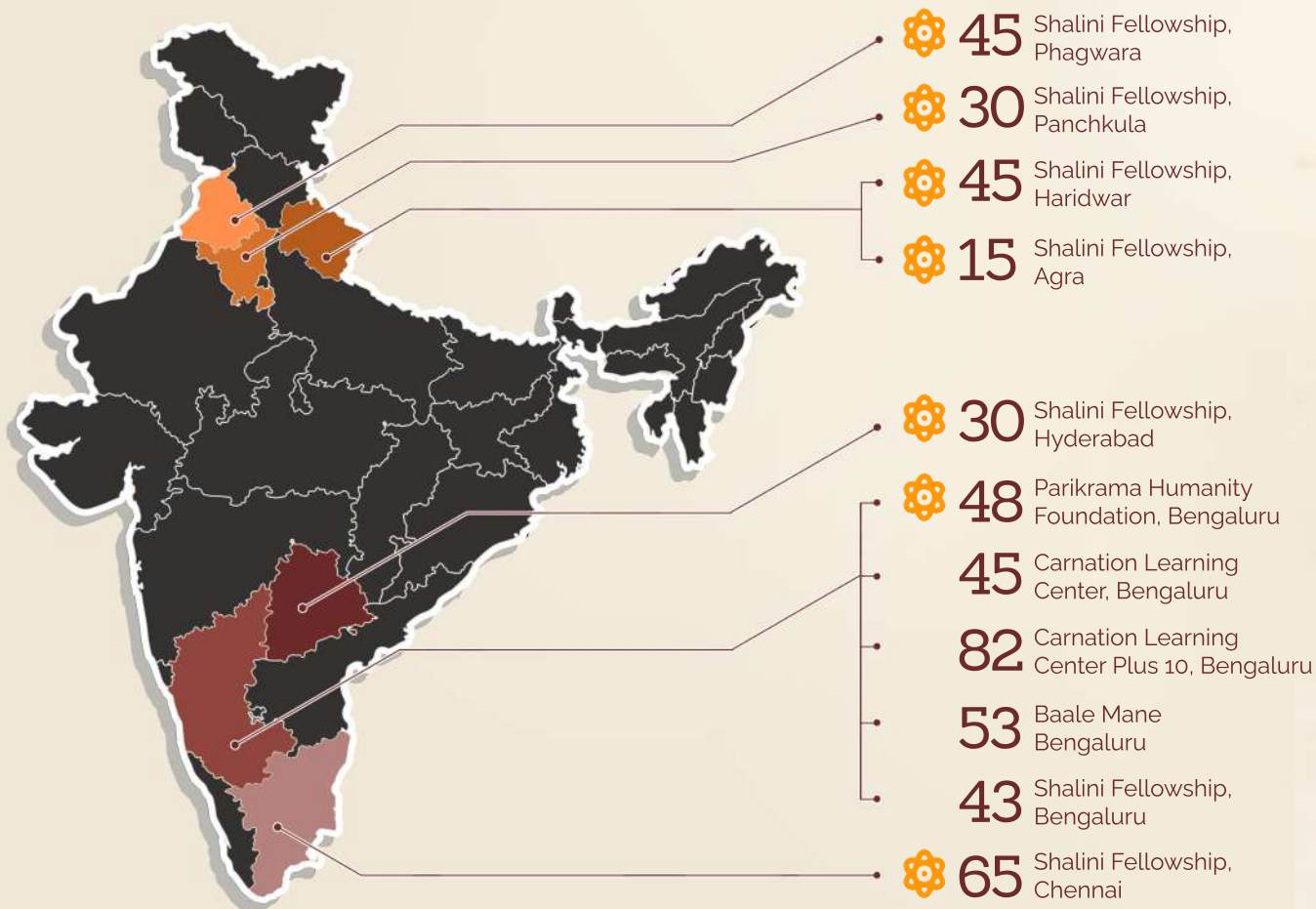
Collaboration

Collaboration and relationship building are essential to achieving our mission of funding quality education to girls in India. We recognize that by working together with our partners, stakeholders, and communities, we can develop unique approaches and solutions that address the complex challenges, facing girls' education in India.



Impact Map

Our mission is personal for us: we have a **direct relationship with every program and child** we support. And therefore, we currently only partner with organizations who align with our vision, mission, and values, ensuring that our common goals are always in harmony. Our commitment extends beyond simply academics and school fees to advancing programs that address social, cultural, and economic barriers for a holistic education. Our scholarships cover regular meals, uniforms, transportation, school supplies and textbooks, technology literacy and internet access, English classes, counseling, healthcare, and much more – ensuring every student has the resources and support needed to succeed.



* Not included on the map is a single student still being supported from our previous initiative with KRITI.



Empower
A Girl
was our theme for 2024.

Executive Director's Note

Dear Supporters,

In 2024, your generosity gave **502 girls in India the chance to stay in school** and move closer to defining their own futures. Together with our dedicated partners, we expanded access to quality education, mentorship, and life-skills programs for girls across India.

This year, we were proud to **expand the Shalini Fellowship to Agra**, where 15 young women now receive the personal mentorship and skills training needed to thrive beyond the classroom. This builds on our established chapters in Hyderabad, Chennai, Bengaluru, Haridwar, Phagwara, and Panchkula. Thanks to your support, these fellows are turning education and opportunity into lifelong independence.

We also came together at events like our "Empower a Girl" lunch and "Every Girl Has a Dream" cocktail party. These moments remind us that this mission is a shared promise: every gift and conversation help break cycles of early marriage, child labor, and missed opportunity.

Thank you for continuing to believe in a bias-free world where every girl can access education and step confidently into her future. I invite you to explore our **2024 Annual Report** and celebrate the impact you made possible.

With gratitude,

Alexandra Collier Pittle





“

I donate because I understand what a difference my gift will make. The girls they are supporting are benefitting in so many ways, expected and unexpected. Each girl who is funded by the program sees their future differently, with more confidence and a purpose beyond their years.

- *Lucy Vanderwende* | Donor |

Programs

Baale Mane



Carnation Learning
Center



Carnation Learning
Center Plus 10



Parikrma Humanity
Foundation



Shalini Fellowship
at Udayan Care



Baale Mane

Baale Mane, our partner since 2016, is a long-term residential home for girls and young women aged 7 to 21 from rural communities outside Bengaluru. Many of them have endured challenges such as orphanhood, child labor, or domestic violence before finding safety and opportunity at Baale Mane. Through our partnership, we provided scholarships in 2024 for **43 girls residing in the home, 3 girls mandated to live with their families, and 7 young women** who have transitioned into independent living while pursuing higher education or vocational training. This past year was filled with academic progress and achievements. All of the girls below Grade 9 advanced to the next year, with two making the important leap from a vernacular middle school to an English medium high school. For those in milestone years – Grade 10, Grade 12, or college – many passed their exams with outstanding results of 83% or higher. These accomplishments reflect Baale Mane's individualized, holistic support, which combines tutoring, yoga and sports, computer literacy, English language skills, counseling, life and well-being lessons, career guidance, and full educational cost coverage. In 2024, new areas of learning were also introduced. The girls engaged in sessions on marriage and healthy relationships, comprehensive sexuality education, menstrual health and hygiene, mental health, self-defense, and public speaking and communication. Additionally, a collaboration with a corporate partner brought job readiness training and leadership workshops to prepare older girls for independence and success in adulthood. Today, 10 of Baale Mane's independent scholars are pursuing higher studies in Commerce, Science, Business Administration, Computer Applications, Hotel Management, and Medical Laboratory Technology. A highlight of the year was the revival of *Baale Habba*, the Summer Program, in March 2024: an uplifting celebration that showcased learning, creativity, and community.

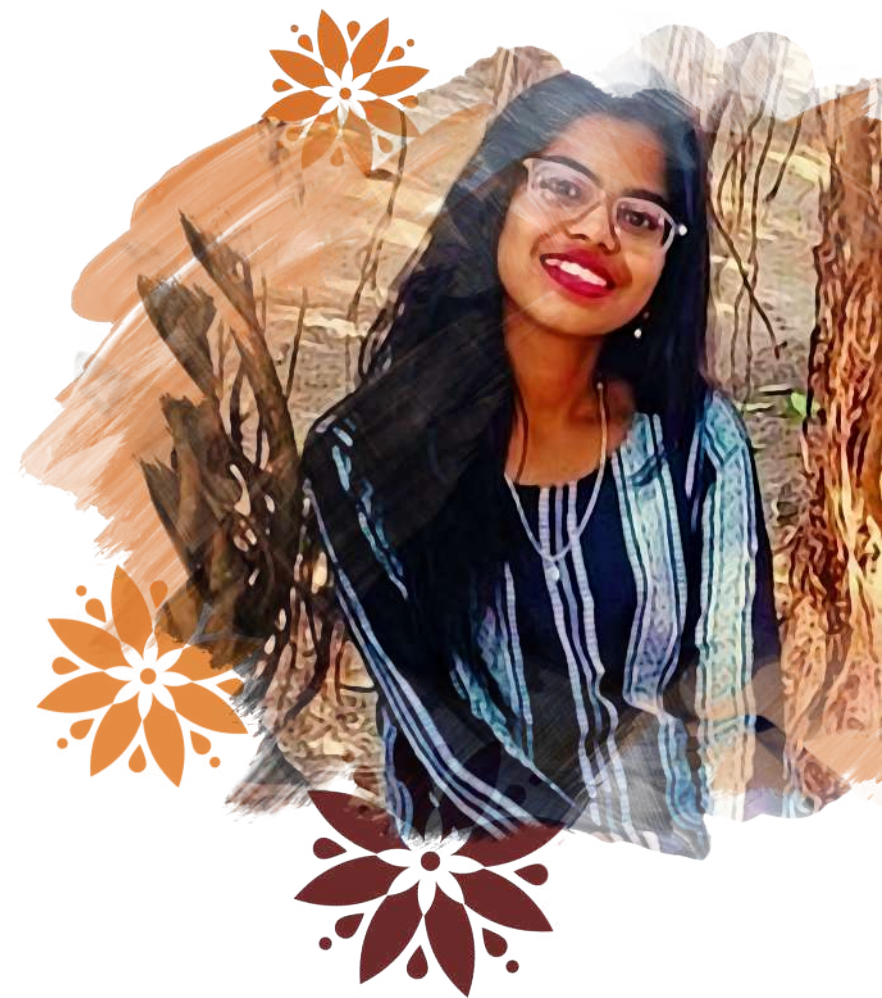


53

Girls
supported



For years, **SHATAKSHI** called Baale Mane her safe haven. However, following the recommendation of the Child Welfare Committee, she was successfully reintegrated with her family recently. This important milestone was just the beginning of a new phase in her life. Now in her final year of college, she is chasing her dreams: having completed her Chartered Accountancy (CA) Basics module, she is eagerly preparing for the intermediate level once she graduates in 2026. Her fascination with numbers and systems is not just a career goal – it is a passion. In class, she has confidently delivered presentations on emerging trends in accounting and the intricacies of India's financial system, making her a standout among her peers. Shatakshi's academic path recently took her to Mandya for her first industrial visit—a day that brought theory to life. The experience not only expanded her practical knowledge, but also deepened her curiosity about how industries function, which was apparent in the report she submitted afterward with a focused reflection. Beyond academics, Shatakshi's creativity shines just as brightly: evidenced by when she and a friend clinched second prize in a college *rangoli* competition. One accounting concept and one courageous choice at a time, Shatakshi is crafting a life of independence, dignity, and purpose. Her journey is a testament to what is possible when support, opportunity, and self-belief come together. Armed with her CA dreams, her powerful voice, and her unwavering resolve, Shatakshi continues to inspire. She stands tall, both literally and figuratively, with physical and mental empowerment.



Carnation Learning Center

Carnation Learning Center in Bengaluru offers high-quality preschool education for up to 100 children from very low-income families, all through an English-based curriculum. Recognizing how vital early childhood is for mental and physical development, the program goes far beyond academics: children learn the basics of reading, writing, and mathematics while also receiving two nutritious meals per day, hygiene talks, field trips, and enrichment activities that support their growth. In the 2024–25 academic year, our support focused on preschool classes K4 and K5 (for children aged four and five), where **30 girls and 15 boys received 21,439 meals**. Over the years, from 2014 to 2025, Carnation has served nearly 272,136 plates of wholesome food to its young learners. Academically, the children demonstrated impressive results. Among the girls, 78% earned top marks of A+ (90–100%), while 58% of the boys achieved scores in the B+ range (50–69%). These achievements reflect not only strong academics but also the well-rounded approach Carnation takes to education. Teachers and parents participated in meetings for shared growth and understanding, while the children received individualized academic support and regular health monitoring of their weight and height. Physical education was built into the program, alongside engaging sessions such as Good Touch/Bad Touch, health and hygiene, weekly arts and crafts, and even a joyful field trip to Cubbon Park.



45

Pre-school
students
supported



In a tiny sheet-roofed home lives four-year-old **SADAA**, a spirited little girl with a dream to become a police officer one day. But just a year ago, that dream nearly slipped away. Sadaa was once enrolled in a private nursery school; but within weeks, her health began to deteriorate. She was constantly ill, struggling to breathe. After several hospital visits, her parents received heartbreaking news – their daughter had developed a severe lung infection. She was hospitalized for months. Medical bills piled up. Her father, an auto driver earning just INR 800 or US\$ 9 per day (of which barely INR 300 or US\$3.50 remains after expenses) took loans from multiple sources to pay for her treatment. Her mother, desperate to help, started working as a housekeeper. But the price was devastating – Sadaa had to drop out of school. Her parents were heartbroken. Their little girl was losing not only her health but her chance at an education. Then came a lifeline: Carnation Learning Centre. When Sadaa's parents learned about a school offering free quality education and nutritious meals for underprivileged children, they rushed to the centre with one hope – that their daughter might get a second chance. Moved by their story and determined to help, the Carnation team welcomed Sadaa into the K4 class, even though she had missed the first year. At first, she struggled, while other children were ahead. She was quiet, uncertain, and still recovering. Slowly, with the care of her teacher, the support of her parents, and the love she received at school, Sadaa began to bloom. Today, she walks into class with a bright smile, confidently interacts with friends, and even excels in her tests. Her favorite color is green, and when asked what she loves most about school, she says joyfully: *"I love my teacher and my friends."* Sadaa's story is one of resilience, opportunity, and transformation: from a little girl who once lay in a hospital bed, disconnected from learning, to one who is now back in school, safe, healthy, and dreaming big.



Carnation Learning Center – Plus 10

Carnation Learning Center in Bengaluru not only provides high-quality preschool education but also ensures students can continue their learning journey well beyond. After completing preschool, children are supported through the Plus 10 program, which guarantees continued access to quality education at six neighboring private English-medium schools for Grades 1–10. To strengthen this pathway, students in Grades 1–4 receive after-school homework assistance at Carnation itself, while those in Grades 5–9 benefit from academic help through online classes. This online approach (introduced during the pandemic to close gaps in access to education) has now become a vital support system. From the 2020–21 school year through April 2025, nearly **8,233 online sessions** have been conducted, reflecting the extraordinary dedication of the online faculty. The curriculum enrichment included English language and computer skills, counseling, sports meets, yoga and meditation, karate, health and wellness activities, science fairs, cultural events, writing competitions, creativity and drawing sessions, and excursions such as trips to industries and a memorable trip to Mysore. Students have also benefited from sessions on hygiene, transportation, and safety. Each of these opportunities helps children grow – fostering emotional, social, and moral development while building confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills. The results speak for themselves: among the **64 girls and 18 boys** supported, 78% earned scores of B (60–69%) or higher in their annual exams, with 97.5% successfully advancing to the next year. Notably, among the nine 10th graders supported this year, seven successfully graduated from this pivotal stage and are now continuing their education at pre-university colleges. Through this combination of academic support and holistic growth, Carnation is shaping students who are not only capable learners, but also confident individuals prepared to thrive in the years ahead.



82

Plus 10
students
supported



SWATHI, a 15-year-old girl studying in 10th grade at an English-medium school, lives a life marked by resilience, hardship, and hope. Despite growing up in difficult circumstances, she remains determined to change the course of her life through education. After years of emotional and physical suffering, Swathi's mother separated from her alcoholic and violent husband, stepping out on her own to protect her children. This marked the beginning of her toughest journey: raising two children singlehandedly without any stable source of income. The family stays in a single-room tin-sheet house in a harsh environment, paying a rent of INR 3,000 or US \$35 per month. The mother's struggles grew when Swathi's elder brother dropped out of school, but it also shifted her perspective. She found strength and hope in Swathi, who remained focused on her studies despite all odds. During the COVID-19 lockdown, her mother lost her only income source and was left jobless for months. This is when KAP became their lifeline: providing food kits, emotional support, and most importantly, continuous educational assistance for Swathi. Swathi shared, *"Some say I'm unlucky because my father left when I was just three months old. But I believe I'm lucky—because I have a mother who has fought like a warrior every single day. She never gave up. She is my greatest inspiration."* Swathi's favorite subject is English and she loves dancing. She is a dedicated and hardworking student, aiming to score above 70% in her board exams. She attends her after-school online classes regularly, which has helped her understand her lessons better and stay motivated. She says, *"My school is the only place where I can truly discover who I am. It gives me the space to learn, grow, and dream. I want to become a teacher one day so I can inspire children like me."* Swathi's mother has now become a strong advocate for girls' child education. She proudly says, *"I now believe that girls are just as intelligent and capable. Swathi is proving that every single day."* Swathi stands as a shining example of what courage, support, and education can do: breaking cycles, rebuilding dreams, and becoming a beacon of hope for other girls like her.



Parikrma Humanity Foundation

Parikrma Humanity Foundation is driven by a mission to ensure that disadvantaged children can access the best possible opportunities anywhere in the world. They provide K–12 education and scholarships to university in mainstream colleges. In Bengaluru, they operate four schools and a Junior College, serving more than 2,000 children from 99 low-income communities and five shelter homes. Their model encourages students to explore art, sport, theatre, and dance, while Parikrma's 360-degree development approach addresses every aspect of a child's life: English-medium education, three nutritious meals daily, comprehensive healthcare, and family care to ensure a stable home environment. Uniquely, the schools admit male siblings only when their sisters are already enrolled, ensuring that families place equal priority on girls' education. Our partnership with Parikrma began in 2023, and in 2024 we expanded our support at the Parikrma Centre for Learning in Jayanagar, **reaching 18 girls** in Grades 1,4,6,7,9, and 10. Their dedication to learning has been remarkable: attendance reached 96.8%, retention was 100%, and all students were promoted to the next grade. For our 10th graders, this was especially significant, as every student passed her board exams and advanced to the next stage of education. Throughout the year, students are engaged in a wide variety of supplementary programs and events, including junior sports day, an awareness program on child sexual abuse, health check-ups, a primary school readathon, dental treatment for parents, football league, science festival, a trip to Parikrma Oxygen, the Parikrma Innovations Conclave, and the Global Reading Program for high schoolers. Teachers observed inspiring progress among the girls: stronger listening and participation, improved reading skills, growing leadership and teamwork, better time management and study habits, and – especially among older students – a deeper sense of responsibility and commitment to being role models.



48

Girls
supported



TANVI, a Grade 7 student at Parikrma Centre for Learning, Jayanagar, comes from a humble background: her father works as a porter, her mother is a homemaker, and her younger sister studies at the same school. At first, Tanvi was a shy and quiet child who struggled with her studies, however, with constant support and her hard work, she has grown into a confident and focused student. Today, she competes with the top scorers in her class and shows strong leadership qualities. Even after a throat surgery kept her away from school for a month, she bounced back and continued to do well. She loves reading, writing, singing, and dancing. Tanvi often helps her classmates and makes the effort to keep her surroundings clean. She dreams of becoming a doctor to care for the needy. Her journey from a timid child to a bright and active student is an inspiration to all.



Shalini Fellowship At Udayan Care

The Shalini Fellowship, an initiative of our partner Udayan Care, spans 34 chapters across 13 states in India. The word *Shalini* means "dignified, empowered woman," and the Fellowship helps young women rise beyond their background limitations to pursue their life with dignity, confidence, and strength. By providing financial support to continue studies past Grade 10, the Fellowship opens doors to vocational training, junior college, and university education. Each Shalini is paired with a dedicated mentor, who offers guidance through higher education and towards a meaningful career. The program is further strengthened by life-skills workshops and training sessions to nurture success both academically and personally. In 2024 alone, there were **269 sessions**, delivered through quarterly workshops, small group sessions, community engagement, and employability training. Topics ranged from resume writing, digital literacy, career guidance, and mental health and wellness. Shalinis also took part in corporate visits, celebrated milestones (like International Women's Day and Indian Independence Day), and lived the truly transformative experience of short residential camps. A spirit of service and civic responsibility was cultivated through beach clean-ups, tree plantations, donation drives, and visits to the elderly in nursing homes – teaching them first-hand the value of compassion and leadership. Beginning in 2020, we first supported 27 young Fellowship women in Hyderabad and each year since, we have expanded our reach. Today, the program supports Shalinis in **seven geographies**: Bengaluru, Chennai, Haridwar (Uttarakhand), Hyderabad, Phagwara (Punjab), Panchkula (Haryana), and **new in 2024 Agra**. The results speak for themselves: retention remained high, dropout rates stayed low, and 100% of the students were promoted to the next academic year – demonstrating strong performance across the board.



286
Young women
supported
across
7 cities



DURGESH, a student from Grade 11, embodies perseverance and ambition. Hailing from a rural village near Agra, she undertakes a remarkable 60-kilometer daily commute to pursue her education. Her achievement of 80% in the 10th Grade board exams reflects her hard work and has made her a role model in her village, inspiring others with her passion for learning and determination. She draws inspiration from her father's tireless efforts as a farmer, whose unwavering support has been a source of motivation. He encourages her to participate in workshops and various activities, fostering her growth and development. Committed to giving back, Durgesh undertakes tutoring for five students near her home. Durgesh aspires to become an Indian Police Service Officer, seeking to create a better future not only for herself, but also for her village and community. Her drive is further fueled by the unfulfilled aspirations of her two elder sisters, who had to relinquish their dreams and are now married. Durgesh's multifaceted personality shines through her diverse interests and activities. She showcased her artistic talent by participating in a drawing competition at school and demonstrated her knowledge of Indian culture by participating in the *Bhartiya Sanskriti Gyan Pariksha*. Due to financial limitations, Durgesh's family has been grateful to receive support from the Shalini Fellowship, which has alleviated the burden of her education costs. She once struggled to afford textbooks, often feeling embarrassed to borrow from her peers; now, thanks to the Shalini Fellowship program, she can purchase books independently. This newfound autonomy has significantly boosted her confidence, allowing her to focus on her studies without the burden of financial constraints. As one of six children in her family, including two younger sisters and a younger brother – all of whom are pursuing their education, Durgesh's circumstances underscore the importance of financial assistance and mentorship. The guidance and support she receives now serve as hope, empowering her to overcome adversity and achieve her goals.



Fundraising

Seattle Annual Spring Luncheon | April 2024

Our annual signature event the Opportunity Luncheon, called the Empower Girl Luncheon this year, was held at Khushi – an Indian restaurant in Bellevue, Washington – where the guests enjoyed delicious chaat and a buffet lunch. We embraced a new format this time: attendees listened to updates from our partner projects in India presented by Executive Director Alexandra Collier Pittle. Highlights included a live interview with Priyanka, an aspiring chartered accountant and Shalini Fellow from Bengaluru, India and a live update from Sravya, a student who has been supported by KAP for the last 15 years from her early education in India to a post graduate degree in the USA. Sravya, at the time was studying computer science at SUNY Albany, USA.

Seattle Fall Cocktail Party | September 2024

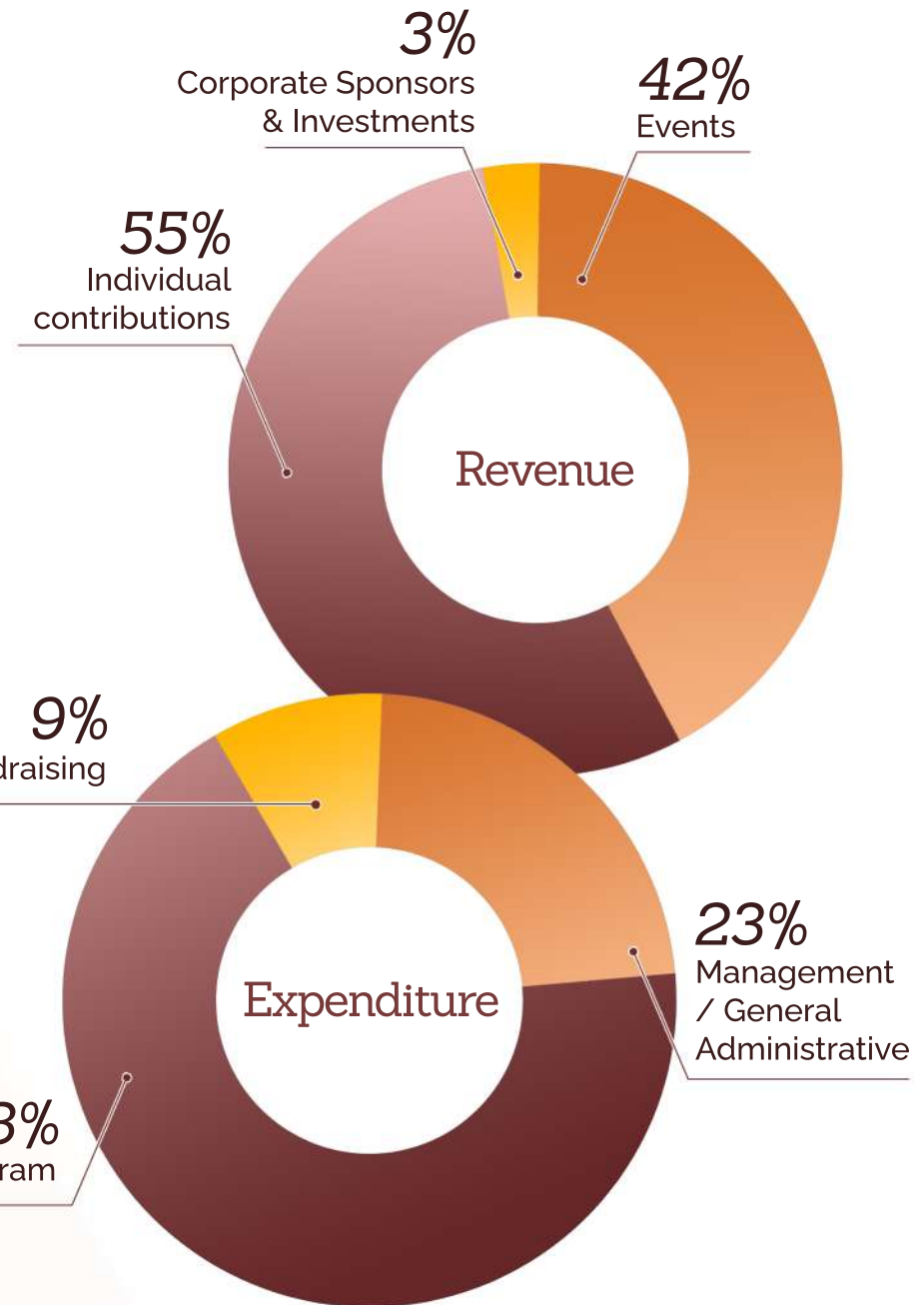
Over 80 people joined us for an evening of delicious food and inspirational stories with a focus on 'Every Girl Has a Dream.' Shalini Fellow Kashish Pant joined us live from India to share her story of hard work and persistence. We also debuted a new video featuring Padmapriya, a determined girl from our newest partner project, Parikrma Humanity Foundation. We are so grateful to everyone who attended and gave so generously to help more girls' educational dreams come true.



2024 Financials

Revenue

Individual Contributions	\$171,394
Events	\$131,450
Corporate Sponsors	\$2,725
Investments	\$5,057
Total Revenue	\$310,626



Expenditure

Program	\$255,728
Management / General Administrative	\$86,819
Fundraising	\$32,093
Total Expenditures	\$374,640

Donors

Thank you to ALL of our more than **558 supporters** – from individual to major donors! Your generosity makes these opportunities possible, helping children grow, learn, and thrive in an environment of care and promise. A special mention to our steadfast Rangoli circle of monthly donors who help to sustain our work.

Major Donors

-  Jane Bove
-  David D'Souza
-  Anita Erskine
-  Anu & Arpana Goel
-  Becky & Chris Guzak
-  Robin & Court Lorenzini
-  Sonia & Subeer Manhas
-  Michelle and Scott Peyree
-  Sriram Ryali and family
-  Jackie Schmidt
-  Pallavi & Ash Wahi
-  Lucretia Vanderwende & Arul Meneze
-  



Team

Staff

Executive Director: Alexandra Collier Pittle

Project Manager: Divya Mohan (India)

Marketing & Development: Shubhalaxmi Taywade

Accountant: Lalith Prasad (India)

Board of Directors

President: Linda Floyd

Secretary: Arti Ayare

Treasurer: Tejal Ajmera

Board Members: Anita Akerkar, Tejal Desai, Pooja Raval, Sri Ryali, Sarika Sikka, Shubhra Sinha Kamath, Tanya Nachia Somanna, Afomia Seleshi

Board Emeritus: Sheryl Hoyer, Mallika Kohli, Nita Talwar

Volunteers

Salima Bangur, Suzy Khendry (*Event Planner*), Veer Khendry, Marisol Mason, Sheetal Mathur, Arjun Nambiar, Ranvir Rana, Elsa Robinson, Joe Robinson, Ashna Sikka, Aarya Somanna, Shubha Taywade

Future

To build on our goals, we are implementing a plan for programmatic growth and secure funding. We aim to:



Grow capacity and
expand members on
The Board



Strengthen and develop
new committees
to steer our mission



Support
6,000+ hours
of student education by 2030



Secure 10%
of our annual funding
from grants



Host a
one-day conference
with all partner programs in 2026.





the
KIRAN ANJALI
PROJECT

