

PRECIOUS HANDS

(A Child- Sponsorship- Programme)



Annual Report-2023

The Vision

Releasing Children from Poverty & preventing them from Human Trafficking to give them a better quality of life.

Dear Beloved Partners,

It is a joy for us once again to share with you the Annual Report of Precious Hands. This year 2023 we have added some new activities in the school curriculum and have extended 'Project Hygiene – Sanitary Napkins' to a new area and dimension. Below is a brief report of these new activities.

NEW ACTIVITIES

'Project Hygiene – Sanitary Napkins'

This year we started this program in **Hardon** village. There are 25 girls enrolled in the program. It is conducted according to the same pattern as in Baithakwa. They meet once a month for teaching on topics related to **(MHM) Menstrual Hygiene Management** and given one packet of sanitary pads for their use. Total number of girls combined in both centers is 100.



New Saturday Activities

We have restructured our Saturday activities for the children to give them more time from Monday – Friday to concentrate on their studies. On Saturday children begin the day with PT according to their class. After which the teachers conduct a health awareness class and examine each child in their class (hair, nails, ears, hands etc.,) and keep reminding them of clean habits which they should adopt. There is a short time of review of what was taught during the week. The rest of the day the children are divided according to age and class to take part

in a variety of activities which they have interest in. Some children like to plant trees and plants in the school campus. Some children like to learn a skit or dancing. Older girls are learning to use needle and thread and sew making small items such as handkerchief with embroidery. And some children run and play games.



MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

The following activities are conducted **once** in a month.

- **Distribution** of Hygiene Kits (school children)
- **Distribution** of Nutritive Supplements (school children)
- **Distribution** of Sanitary Napkins (girls in 'Project Hygiene' at Baithakwa & Hardon)
- **Adult Literacy Classes** (3 days in a week)

Brief report of 2023 activities month wise.

JANUARY 2023

- School/Centers reopen after winter holidays (27th of Jan)
- Republic Day Celebration – Government designated holiday celebrated by teachers and children / flag hoisting, singing of national anthem and a brief speech followed by refreshments.



FEBRUARY 2023

- **Classroom** teaching
- **Sponsor Letter** of Thanks (written by children)
- **Preparation** and review for final exams
- **Project Hygiene** – Topic: Danger of Early Marriage

MARCH 2023

- **Conducting** of Final Exams
- **Teachers Prepare Final Results** – correction of exam papers, marking of grades and report card distribution
- **Project Hygiene–Topic:** Importance of Education



APRIL 2023

- **Class promotion** and new admissions taken
- **Class orientation** for new class and teacher
- **Spring Celebration** – special gifts (bath towel and steel lunch box)
- **Project Hygiene** – Topic: Importance of Nutrition



MAY 2023

- **Summer Arts and Crafts Camp**–children participated in an all day program of making different crafts and art work
- **Special Academic Awards: (All three school / centers)**
Classes 1-5 – For those who came in 1st, 2nd and 3rd position with highest marks (Gifts of steel plate, steel glass and steel lunch box)
Classes 4-5 in Baithkwa – Bicycle given to the child who scored highest marks in their results
Class 4 in Hardon and Shankargarh – Bicycle given to the child who scored highest in their results
Classes 1-5 – Award for best attendance (steel lunch box)
- **Summer Holiday School Assignment** – children were given light homework assignments to help them practice writing, reading and math skills
- **Summer Holidays** – all school / centers were closed for children and teachers from 15th May to 15th June.
- **Project Hygiene–Topic:** Nearest Health Center and Benefits



KUVAR BAHADUR - Pass out Student (HARDON)

Kuvar is 15 years old. He is a pass out student from the Precious Hands Center in Hardon. The formative years of his education in the Precious Hands School / Center laid a strong foundation for Kuvar's future education. One of the areas in which we stress and encourage the children is when they leave the Precious Hands School /Center they must further their education. It is here that



awareness programs and related activities for the children come into play. The overall development of the child is taken into perspective. Teaching health and hygiene equips a child with habits that definitely promotes cleanliness which affects their attitude towards a better way of life. Awareness programs related to child labor and its hopeless future is instilling in them a better way of life that they can have. Awareness programs constantly emphasizes the importance of education is influencing children when they pass out from Precious Hands School/ Center to enroll in the next class. These same awareness programs mentioned are also formulated for the parents who play the major role in their children's future. Kuvar's parents are agriculture laborers. He has two brothers and three sisters. At present two of his sisters are enrolled in the Precious Hands School / Center. He is now in class 10th and has two more years to complete his intermediate studies. After this he plans on attending a good college which is 26 kilometers from his village Hardon. He wants to be an engineer. His elder brother is living and working in Gujarat. He is helping support the education of his younger brothers and sisters. He has been encouraging Kuvar to pursue his dream and he will help him get a small rented room near the college so that he can continue his education and fulfill his dream to be an engineer.

JUNE 2023

- School summer break was extended to July 1st due to heat wave.

JULY 2023

- **Reopening of School / Centers** –3rd of July / classes resume
- **Distribution** – school bags, books and stationary
- **Distribution** – school uniforms
- **Staff & Teachers Workshop** – **Topic:** New Teaching Strategy
- **Parents Awareness Program** – **Topic:** Value of Education
- **Project Hygiene** – **Topic:** Ladies Reproduction Organs and Menstrual Cycle



AUGUST 2023

- **Class Room teaching**
- **India's 75 Independence Day** - Government designated holiday (August 15th) celebrated by teachers and children / Flag hoisting, singing of national anthem and a brief speech followed by refreshments.
- **Art competition** – **Theme:** My India – My Country (all classes)
- **Speech competition** – **Theme:** My India – My Country (Class 4th and 5th)
- **Project Hygiene** – **Topic:** Personal Hygiene



SEPTEMBER 2023

- **Class Room teaching**
- **Staff Workshop** – **Theme:** Improve Your Teaching Skills
- **Teachers Day Celebration** – Children honored their teachers by staging a program for them with songs, poems and skits followed by refreshments for children and teachers.
- **Art competition** – **Theme:** My School (all classes)
- **Speech competition** – **Theme:** Value of Time (4th, 5th)



NIRBHAY KUMAR – Pass Out Student (Shankargarh)

Nirbhay Kumar is from the village of Shankargarh. His parents are both agriculture laborers. He has four brothers and one sister. The eldest is 38 years old and the youngest is Nirbhay. He is 17 years old and passed out from the Precious Hands School / Center in the year 2018. If we look at his elder brothers we find that he is the only one who has had an



opportunity to pursue his education. When his elder brothers were growing up as children they had no access to school. The result is that three of them are working as laborers like their parents and one has learned tailoring and has a small shop. When Precious Hands opened its school / center Nirbhay and his sister had access to primary education. His sister is now doing her graduation (BA final). Nirbhay and his sister represent hundreds of other children who have access to education because of Precious Hands reaching out into this remote village which was neglected for generations. Without this opportunity these children would be stuck in the cycle of having to work as laborers like their generations past. Nirbhay after passing out from Precious Hands School/ Center went on to further his education and is now studying in an inter collage some distance from his home. He makes the effort despite the distance to move forward in his desire to study. He has completed his 10th class with very high marks. He is aiming to be an IAS officer (Indian Administrative Services). This means he has to press forward in his educational pursuits and score high marks to qualify for such a post. "I am very grateful to Precious Hands. If they had not entered our village and offered us an opportunity to study I would have been a laborer like my parents and grandparents who had no other alternative in life. "

- **Health Awareness Program – Topic:** Dengue and Malaria
- **Distribution:** Mosquito Nets
- **Project Hygiene – Topic:** Importance of Nutrition



OCTOBER 2023

- **Class Room teaching**
- **Gandhi Jayanti** – Government designated holiday to honor Mahatma Gandhi the Father of the Nation. Children were taught about his life and contribution to the Nation. After the program children were given refreshments.
- **Annual Sports Day & Prize Distribution**–Children participated in an all day sports event. Children coming 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each event were given special prizes of steel items (1st plate, 2nd lunch box and 3rd glass.) All children were given refreshments after the event.
- **Project Hygiene – Topic:** Disposing of Sanitary Napkins



NOVEMBER 2023

- **Class Room teaching**
- **Children Day Celebration** – Government designated holiday to honor children. Different activities were organized for the children (games, sports, skits and songs). Teachers distributed sweets and refreshments to all the children.
- **Project Hygiene – Topic:** Myths and Taboos about Ladies Menstruation



SUSHEELA DEVI - Mother (Baithkwa)

Susheela Devi and her husband Ramjeet are living in the village of Baithkwa. Ramjeet is an agricultural laborer and also a loader. He works loading goods into trucks and small transports from one shop to another. Susheela is running a small cosmetic shop with makeup



items and small trinkets and jewelry that the village women wear. She frequently makes a trip to the local market which is 12 kilometers away from her house to purchase the items for her shop. From the time we have set up a sanitary pad making unit at the Baithkwa School / Center she has been coming to the center to purchase sanitary pads to put in her shop for sale. She is one of the promoters of the Precious Hands component "Project Hygiene – Sanitary Pads". Susheela is a very hard working woman and along with her shop she cooks Indian snacks of samosa and prakoda and sells them from her shop. She is progressive in her thinking and a promoter of children's education specially for the girls. Susheela Devi and Ramjeet have three children. Their eldest's is a boy Sharad Kumar who is studying in 3rd class. Her two daughters Karishma (2nd class) and Saloni (KG) are also studying in Precious Hands School/Centers. Susheela and Ramjeet are keen that her children should go to school. As concerned parents they are a good example and ambassadors in their village in promoting education for both boys and girls.

DECEMBER 2023

- **Half Yearly Exams**
- **Winter Celebration** – Children performed a special program with songs, skits and games. **Special Gifts** of warm sweaters were given to the children. After the program refreshments were given to the children.
- **Project Hygiene – Topic:** Bathing During Menstruation
- **Special Gifts for (Project Hygiene) girls:** ladies stoles and refreshments
- **School / Centers Closed** – Winter holidays from December 30th – January 16th, 2024.



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