

SUMMARY

Globally, one in three trafficking victims is a child (U.N., 2020). In the Indian states of Assam and West Bengal, children living in vulnerable areas, like red-light districts, are especially susceptible to trafficking and exploitation. With your support, we are working together with the community to protect children, advocate against trafficking, and empower survivors.

ASSAM

God granted this project favor in its first year: We were invited to begin working with both children and adults sooner than we expected.

In March, we opened a **Child-Friendly Learning and Recreation Center (CFLRC)** in the red-light district of Silchar, becoming the only NGO to work in this district for 100 years. The CFLRC provides the children of sex workers with nutrition, mental health support, and education. Initially, we were only allowed to work with children, but after providing emergency food to 23 CFLRC mothers when their incomes disappeared due to COVID-19, they invited us to host a **Celebrating Families** workshop in FY22. This workshop teaches adults how to break the cycles of abuse and neglect.

Other highlights from FY21 include:

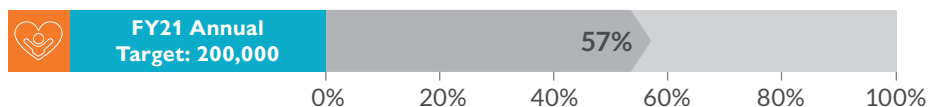
- **Empowered 9,507 girls** to be powerful community advocates through 233 Girl Power Groups (GPGs).
- **Encouraged 4,408 men from 144 Men Care Groups (MCGs)** to challenge the mindset that females are less valuable and become advocates in their communities. So far, seven groups have helped stop 11 child marriages.
- **Distributed 80,000 education materials** about abuse, trafficking, and how to get help.
- **Became the preferred NGO partner on child protection issues in Baksa district.**
- **Earned the trust of the Legal Services Authority in Dhubri district**, who now partners only with us because of our expertise.



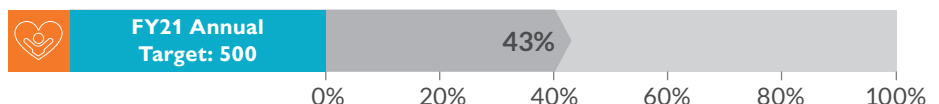
Above, a Girl Power Group conducts a weekly meeting in Dhubri district, Assam. Currently all GPG members are completing life-skills training, and 1,491 girls are in World Vision's Sports for Development program, where they learn life skills through soccer.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES (ASSAM)

113,825 community members educated to prevent trafficking and promote safe migration*



214 faith leaders completed Channels of Hope for Child Protection training*



572 criminal justice system actors completed child protection training



*Progress was delayed because of gathering restrictions due to the COVID-19 Delta variant.

INDIA

WEST BENGAL

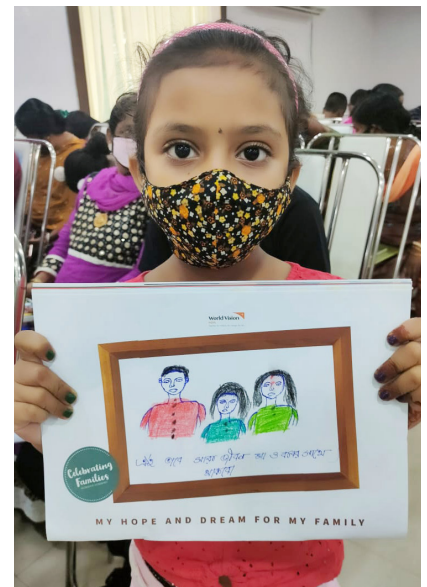
Our West Bengal child protection project faced great challenges in FY21: disruptive elections, Cyclone Yass in May, and a devastating second wave of COVID-19.

We were able to continue our programs in red-light areas even when COVID-19 shut down many others, and we worked to complement and strengthen the anti-trafficking work of police and government agencies. World Vision is now recognized as one of the top agencies working against human trafficking in the state and we are invited to all state-level policy discussions regarding trafficking.

Our efforts are even more vital during these times, when instability makes children more vulnerable to trafficking and abuse, and donors were quick to respond. We received an additional \$200,000 to meet the increased demand for CFLRCs caused by the closure of other agencies, which allowed us to open four new CFLRCs for a total of 15 centers serving 1,160 children, most of whom are the children of trafficking victims. We praise God for our faithful donors.

Other highlights from FY21 include:

- **Reached at least 1 million people** with messages about the dangers of trafficking and the effects of COVID-19 on child protection through TV, radio, and online media.
- **Worked with Hindu, Muslim, and Christian leaders to launch a massive Faith in Action Campaign.** A day of prayer for trafficking survivors and a call to action was issued in 240 mosques, and the Hindu Brahmin Association organized a “Save Our Girls” campaign that is expected to reach 80,000 people in FY22.
- **The 291 Girl Power Groups grew in responsibility and confidence.** At first, leaders ignored GPGs, but after four years GPGs have earned the respect and cooperation of police and religious leaders. During Cyclone Yass, GPGs monitored adolescent girls to prevent trafficking and abuse.



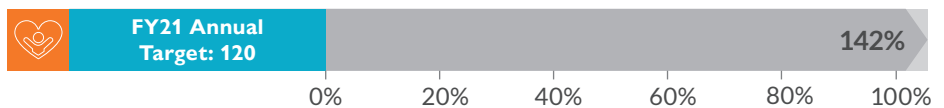
A young girl shares about her hopes and dreams through art at a Celebrating Families workshop.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES (WEST BENGAL)

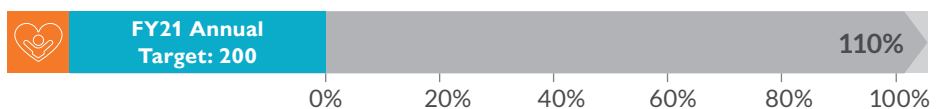
80,609 community members educated to prevent trafficking and promote safe migration



171 child protection committee members trained in child protection practices



219 men participating in Men Care Groups



CHALLENGES AND ADAPTATIONS

Assam: A devastating second wave of COVID-19 made it difficult to complete activities due to strict gathering restrictions. To compensate, we began using Door Sabha, a teleconferencing platform that allows children to call in to learn about how to stay safe from trafficking. We had also planned a state-level assembly for trafficking survivors to engage with lawmakers, but this was converted to a televised event which reached 11,000 people.

West Bengal: COVID-19 caused significant disruption both from restrictions and widespread fear among the population, which hampered our advocacy work. Children and mothers in red-light areas bore the brunt of restrictions as mothers lost income and businesses closed. We distributed dry rations to help these families cope. We also witnessed increased cases of forced marriage and trafficking, and our community groups (GPGs, MCGs, and child protection committees) acted as a first line of defense, reporting these incidents to World Vision and police.

LIFE-OF-PROGRAM UPDATE

Assam (FY21-FY22)

241,698 people, including 11,143 children and youth, have benefited from ministry activities so far.

West Bengal (FY18-FY22)

742,954 people, including 209,849 children and youth, have benefited from ministry activities so far.

PLANS FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

Assam

- Host our first Celebrating Families workshop with 23 mothers and their children in the red-light district.
- Train 300 GPG members as Anti-Trafficking Warriors who can respond to trafficking and other signs of abuse.
- Equip 120 GPGs to lead advocacy campaigns.
- Provide educational scholarships to 50 children.

West Bengal

- Provide education to help 1,100 children affected by long-term school closures catch up to age-appropriate learning.
- Provide an income generation program for 80 CFLRC mothers in FY22.
- Organize a community awareness program to reach 90,000 people.
- Continue CFLRCs in red-light areas for 1,200 children, providing education, nutrition, recreation, and protective services.



“When I saw the vulnerability of adolescent girls and the amount of violence they suffered during this pandemic, I felt very sad. But I was motivated to see the fruits of our years of work among these girls during this difficult time, when these girls fought bravely to save themselves When I fought along with them and with the police to get justice, I felt the pain of the victims.”

—Sandip Bhowmic, World Vision
Technical Specialist for the
Anti-Child Trafficking Project,
West Bengal

THANK YOU

“I don’t know how to express my gratitude toward you all. Previously, I struggled to get food. I had a lot of sleepless nights. Now I am earning money on a daily basis.” — Caregiver of a survivor in Dhubri district, Assam

Together with our amazing participants, we thank you for helping bring safety, justice, and hope to children and their families in India.



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For more information visit:
worldvisionphilanthropy.org/
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World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God’s unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

ASSAM FINANCIALS

Program spending October 2020 through September 2021

Activity Description	Fiscal Year-to-Date Spending	FY21 Funding	Program-to-Date Spending
Outcome 1: At-risk children living in red-light areas and survivors of sex trafficking are made resilient and are able to protect themselves from second generation prostitution			
Provided at-risk children in red-light areas with legal identity and regular monitoring so they have increased resilience	\$ 9,603	\$ 15,946	\$ 9,603
Strengthened the capacity of red-light area single mothers to provide adequate care and nurturing to their children	5,355	11,644	5,355
Increased access to psychosocial care, formal education, and vocational training for reintegrated girls in Dhubri and Baksa districts of Assam	22,654	32,724	22,654
Outcome 2: Adolescent girls are active participants in efforts to reduce sex trafficking and other sexual violence against children in their families and communities			
Improved life skills, protective skills, and voice of adolescent girls to protect themselves and their peers from sex trafficking	302,117	418,142	302,117
Outcome 3: Community demonstrates knowledge and behaviors that protect adolescent girls from sex trafficking and other gender-based violence			
Trained faith leaders to prevent child sex trafficking and other sexual violence against children	77,360	101,000	77,360
Strengthened engagement of fathers and other men in protecting girls from sex trafficking and other gender-based violence	27,477	43,439	27,477
Increased awareness in communities on sex trafficking and ways and means of protecting girls	57,721	83,560	57,721
Outcome 4: Increased capacity, coordination, and accountability of formal/informal child protection actors in effectively preventing and responding to sex trafficking and other sexual violence			
Strengthened dialogue between communities and authorities to improve child protection issues	13,455	41,163	13,455
Established and strengthened community-based, child-friendly reporting and referral mechanism to enable girls to report	4,719	8,858	4,719
Enhanced capacity and coordination of formal child protection agencies to respond to sex trafficking and other sexual violence	26,381	46,024	26,381
Subtotal	546,842	802,500	546,842
Management and fundraising	182,281	267,500	182,281
TOTAL	\$ 729,123	\$ 1,070,000	\$ 729,123

WEST BENGAL FINANCIALS

Program spending October 2020 through September 2021

Activity Description	Fiscal Year-to-Date Spending	FY21 Funding	Program-to-Date Spending
Outcome 1: Children, especially the most vulnerable, are active participants in reducing child sex trafficking and all forms of violence in their families and communities			
Increased capacity of children to protect themselves	\$ 93,248	\$ 95,725	\$ 610,318
Established Child-Friendly Learning and Recreation Centers	345,067	348,803	738,744
Provided services for girls in aftercare homes	46,865	49,310	188,044
Provided economic support to girls' families	373	384	418
Promoted alternative livelihood options	15,586	15,786	21,427
Provided psychosocial care, formal education, and vocational skills training	38,980	40,316	74,444
Outcome 2: Families have strong, healthy relationships and access to appropriate services to care for and protect their children			
Strengthened engagement among men to protect children	13,945	14,086	55,490
Created family development plans for families living in red-light districts	47,000	48,291	51,059
Cared for families with family development plans	47,651	48,295	61,575
Established income-generating activities for families with family development plans	15,547	15,878	21,636
Outcome 3: Communities, including faith communities, are working together to establish and sustain a safe and protective environment for all children			
Increased capacity of faith community to care for children who are vulnerable to, or survivors of, violence	32,874	33,221	85,986
Developed stronger district-level child protection committees	56,602	58,539	86,377
Coordinated meetings among government and nongovernmental organizations	51,260	52,287	142,438
Strengthened advocacy initiatives at district, state, and national levels	5,786	5,876	48,622
Supported the most vulnerable families with food and hygiene supplies	-		94,689
Subtotal	810,784	826,797	2,281,267
Management and fundraising	270,261	257,611	760,422
TOTAL	\$ 1,081,045	\$ 1,084,408	\$ 3,041,689