



# 2017-18 ANNUAL REPORT

*Bringing life-changing care*  
**TO ORPHANED AND  
VULNERABLE CHILDREN**





*Thanks to the  
generosity of our  
donors, our goal  
of a safe, loving  
family for every  
child is within  
reach.*

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# Message from the Founder



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*"Nothing  
is heavy if  
everyone lifts."*

-Sy Wise

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Every good non-profit organization should be working to solve a problem. That is what Miracle Foundation is going to do, by 2040.

We see a world that doesn't need childcare homes. We see a world where every child grows up in a family where they thrive. This isn't just our vision, ask any child that lives in an institution and they'll tell you they would rather live with family. It's time we heard these kids. We have the means, the knowledge, and the partnerships to do it. Now we just need everyone to do what they can and this vision can be a reality.

Until the day when all children are in a safe, loving family, we will continue to make sure children thrive, wherever they are. In the meantime, cheers to every child with a loving family. And here's to an early retirement for Miracle Foundation because every child has a home.

*Charles Bandrup*



# Message from the India Country Head

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*"Your support helped us  
push beyond boundaries."*

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2017 and 2018 were some of our best years yet. We learned how to achieve the ultimate goal of a family for every child. We were already reuniting children with their families whenever possible. And now we also work with communities on family-strengthening programs so that single mothers and families living in poverty have the resources they need to keep their children.

There are several countries that have successfully managed to get children out of institutions and into loving families. Their key to success? They strengthen families and help them with services before they are in crisis. By doing this, they no longer rely on institutions to care for children. This is exactly what we aim to do in the coming years.

As per UNICEF, 80% of children living in childcare homes have a family member that can care for them. We've seen this ourselves at Miracle Foundation. With a small amount of support and guidance, families can and do take their kids back. We also explore other options such as adoption or kinship care for children without a living family member.

We believe that education is the passport to a child's future, and we are proud to share that we are supporting 194 young adults in college. Our mental health program continues to create a home environment that protects basic rights, identifies children at risk, and utilizes external professional resources when needed.

In 2016, we launched our Center for Excellence program that trains leaders and other childcare homes on our methodology. In 2017 and 2018, we are continuing this program, guiding these leaders to reunify children with their families whenever possible and to improve standards of care for children. Thanks to the support of our donors, we have already reunited 30% of children with their families.

Thank you to our donors, corporate partners, Board members, volunteers, and team members for supporting Miracle Foundation. And thank you to the childcare homes who work hard to reunite children with their families and provide the best care to every vulnerable child. As we take a look back, please know how grateful we are to each of you for believing in miracles. It's working.



*N. DasGupta*

# Our Approach

Since our founding on Mother's Day in 2000, Miracle Foundation has taken a stand for orphaned children. Today there are 8 million children living in institutions around the world. That is unacceptable. Ask any child and they will tell you that their biggest dream is to be part of a loving family — it's where they thrive.



Miracle Foundation's “**Child First**” approach is **multi-faceted, collaborative and community-based**. Our measurable, systematic method ensures that children are loved, educated, healthy and safe until they transition to a permanent family.



80% of children living in institutions have a living relative. For these children, we make every effort to **reunite them with their birth family if possible** and help make sure that family has the means to care for them.



For abandoned children without family, we **advocate for each and every child to become a part of a loving and stable adoptive family**. We also help existing children's homes transition into organizations that serve the community and help strengthen families so they can stay together.



And we collaborate with governments, other non-profits and local family-strengthening organizations to **transform systems and give children a voice**.

We know that even the greatest challenges **can be solved** when well-meaning people work together.

# 2017-18 Accomplishments

Together, we are empowering more children than ever before. When we started 2017, our impact was 1,000 children across India. Now, we're transforming the lives of more than 7,000 children around the world. And we're just getting started. Thanks to your support, we are empowering the most vulnerable children in the world to reach their full potential!

We partnered with **child care organizations** across India, ensuring that they can provide their children with loving homes and personalized care.

You sent **194**  
**children to college!**

Continued our **GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS** to help get to more children than ever before.

Hosted our **Inaugural Leadership Council for children**, giving them a voice and platform to speak for parentless children around the world.



Launched our “**Child First**” Digital Toolkit, making our methodology available to anyone around the world.

Hosted our **4th Annual Leadership Council** for founders and executive directors.

Our proven method was published in the **ICEB Journal** (March 2018 Edition).

Provided children access to mental health resources and social workers to help them overcome their trauma.

Our Team was a part of the **Biennial Conference.**

More than **10,785** people have partnered with us to change the world.

# 2017-18

## *Highlights*

### **Education**

In 2017, we provided 194 scholarships to children in higher education. It's almost unheard of for orphaned children to pursue advanced degrees, but we are committed to children until they graduate and become independent, thriving adults.



The children we are sending to college are pursuing a wide range of studies, including engineering, social work, nursing, accounting, and natural sciences. We will continue to support these children as they continue their studies and guide them in finding employment after graduation. The number of Miracle children accepted into college grows every year. What a great testament to our work!

### **Children's Leadership Council**

We hosted our inaugural Children's Leadership Council for all young adults transitioning from living in children's homes to independent adulthood. The 3-day workshop empowered the young adults and gave them practical advice for how to lead a happy and healthy life. The Children's Leadership Council also allowed the young adults to network with their peers and encouraged them to share their knowledge and talents.





# Highlights Continued...

## Centre for Excellence

We continued our partnership with the Socio Economic Development Trust and the Women and Child Development Department of the Government of Maharashtra. Through this Center for Excellence initiative, we trained local leaders and government officials how to successfully reunify children with their families and ensure every child is receiving his or her rights. Training topics included: The United Nations Rights of the Child, child protection, life skills education, attachment, caregiver training and more.



Leveraging a train-the-trainer approach, we are helping dramatically improve the quality of care for orphaned children across the state of Maharashtra.

## Mental Health

We have a robust mental health program for the children and staff at our homes, which uses a two-pronged approach: Prevention and Intervention.



### Key Components of Intervention:

- Ensuring a fully trained, licensed social worker lives at the home
- Providing houseparent training on topics like child development, attachment and discipline
- Providing life skills education for the children

### Key Components of Prevention:

- Basic counselling provided by a social worker
- Counselling case consultation with a clinical social worker
- Advanced counselling by a specialized local therapist



# Miracles You Made

Our impact starts with the children. After all, they're the reason we do what we do. Ensuring every child is educated and feels a sense of belonging is really what our work is all about. Here are two examples of how our donors have transformed the lives of the children.



## Family Reunification

Divya lost her parents at a young age and lived in a children's home for many years. Her only living relatives are four aunts who live in a village nearby. Divya expressed an interest in living with one of her aunts instead of at the children's home.

With guidance from Miracle Foundation, one of Divya's aunts has welcomed Divya into her home. Divya is overjoyed to live with a family member who loves and cares for her. We do thorough follow-up to make sure Divya is getting all she needs to thrive.

## Education

Shreya was abandoned by her relatives in her village. She was left to fend for herself, unsafe and vulnerable. A children's home trained in Miracle Foundation's proven method took Shreya in, and the staff there made sure she had her basic needs and rights met – and that she received quality education.

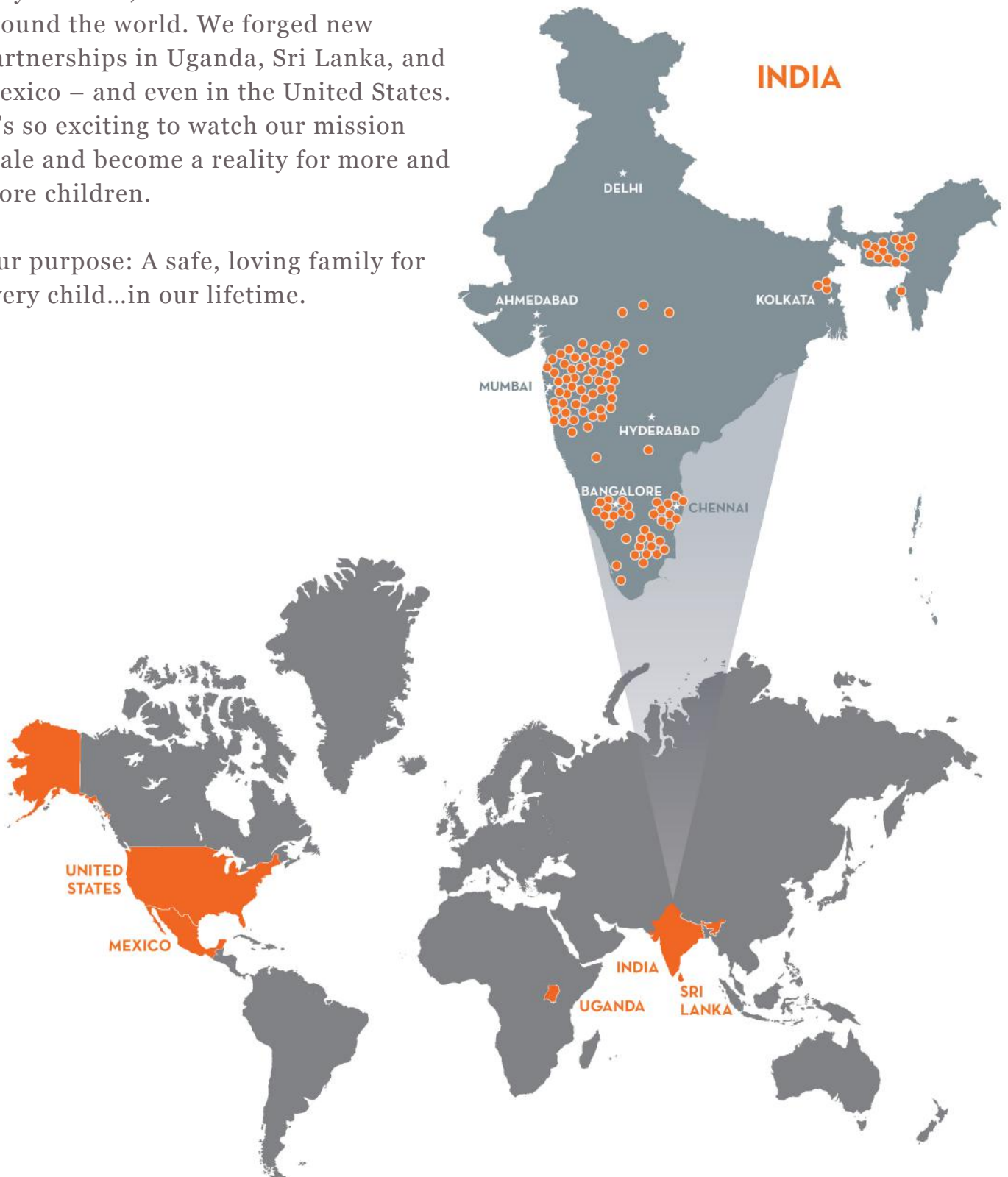
Now Shreya is in college! She is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Radiology and Imaging Technology. Shreya loves her classes and is working hard to become a successful radiologist. We know that Shreya is going to accomplish incredible things and live a full life.



# Growth

2017 and 2018 saw our success grow not only in India, but also in other areas around the world. We forged new partnerships in Uganda, Sri Lanka, and Mexico – and even in the United States. It's so exciting to watch our mission scale and become a reality for more and more children.

Our purpose: A safe, loving family for every child...in our lifetime.



# Our Partners Create Miracles Every Day





St. Stephen's Hospital



## We Love Our Implementation Partners

Aarambh Education & Community Development Society

Anbarasi Social Action

Asha Kuteer

DKSHA

Erode Auxilium Society, Marialaya

Government Centre for Girls

Jeevodaya Society

Kovai Auxilium Salesian Sisters Society

Mahesh Foundation

Matru Mandir Devrukh

Parivartan Mahila Sanstha

Rural Foundation

Shasakiya Mulanche Varisht Balgrah

Shashkiya Mulinchi Vaishtha/Kanishtha Balgruha

S M S S Hindu Mahila Mandiram

Social Action for Manpower Creation

Socio Economic Development Trust

TOUCH

Vijaya Foundation Trust

Voluntary Health Association of Tripura



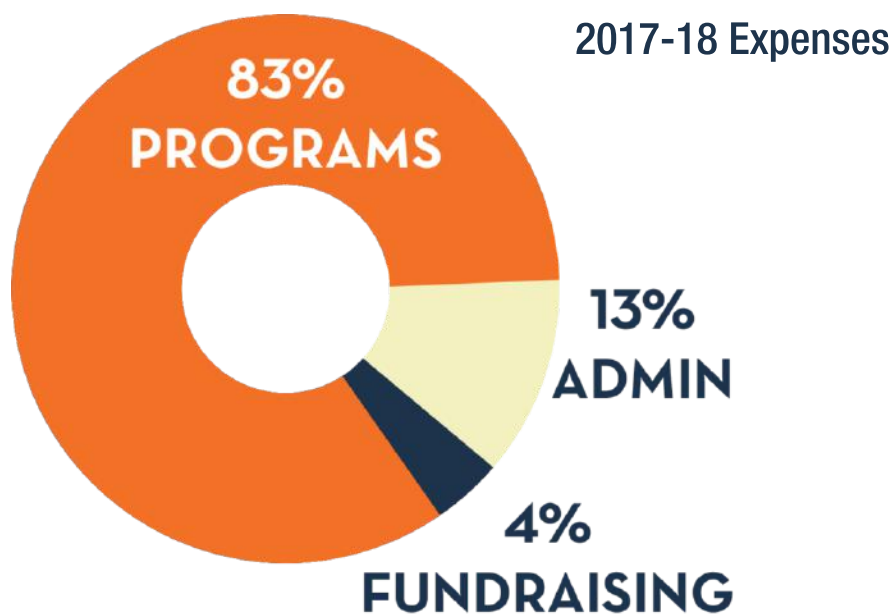
# 2017-18 Financial Report

In 2017-18,

## We supported over 7,000 children,

committed to reuniting them with their families and giving them loving families, a quality education, and personalized care so they are healthy and “known.”

We kept Miracle Foundation **running efficiently**:



# Leaders and Board Members



*Caroline Boudreaux*  
FOUNDER



*Leslie Beasley*  
PRESIDENT



*Nivedita DasGupta*  
INDIA COUNTRY HEAD



*Ranjeet Dugar*  
CHAIRMAN



*Chandra Iyengar*



*Pari Jhaveri*



*Shallu Jindal*



*Subhash Mittal*



*Indy Sarker*





# *Thank you*

to all our donors, volunteers and supporters!

Join our social channels to follow our progress.



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