

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020

Gram Chetna Kendra



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ABOUT GRAM CHETNA KENDRA

A group of socially conscious individuals formed the organization in 1989 to address the immense needs the rural poor of Rajasthan in terms of development. They combined their unique talents, knowledge, skills and experiences to address the pressing issues that the communities were facing. Gram Chetna Kendra began its formal operations from the village of Khedi Milak, located 55 km from Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan, in the Sambhar Block of Jaipur District.

The association started its activities in two villages from the Sambhar Lake area, to extend and reach 11 districts in Rajasthan. Currently, Gram Chetna Kendra is working specifically in 2 districts (Jaipur and Kota). Throughout the years, GCK has sustained a range of various activities through funding and support. Initially, the projects were solely focused on improving the welfare of the rural poor through providing them with basic needs, but the organization has since grown and evolved, towards projects based on capacity building and human resource development.

We aim to see empowered rural people in our project areas address the issues of their own development and participate actively and collectively to the well-being of the community. We work specifically with the most underprivileged segments of the society, especially women, children and people with disabilities, and we would like to initiate change in the community so as to protect their rights, enhance their access to education and equal opportunities and make them actors of their own empowerment.



PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

This year has been an important and fruitful year for our organization. In 2019, we celebrated our 30 years of existence and work in Rajasthan. This has been an occasion to reflect on the past work and on all our efforts in providing services related to health, education, livelihoods, women and girls empowerment, sanitation and environmental protection. From these efforts, and the collaboration with different communities and Community-Based Organizations, partners, NGOs, and officials at all levels of governance, we have been able to initiate systemic and structural change for the well-being of the populations we have been working with.

Local people, and especially the most vulnerable groups; namely women, children and differently abled persons in the communities, have been empowered by their participation in our different project activities and their constitution into institutions such as Self-Help Groups, Child Clubs and Disabled People Organizations. Following our belief that development interventions have to be conducted by the community and for the community, we have been successful in initiating peoples' actions to get entitlements live a dignified life.

We hope that we will continue to collaborate fruitfully with our partners and community people in our project areas in the future and that we will keep moving forward with new perspectives and new ideas.

GOVIND NARAYAN SHARMA

President



SECRETARY'S STATEMENT

I am pleased to share the Annual Report of Gram Chetna Kendra for the year 2019-2020. This reports contains detailed information about our programs and projects and the related achievements. It constitutes a valuable tool to evaluate our actions and review our efforts in order to do better in the future. We are incredibly grateful for all of those who have contributed to make these activities come to life. We would like to thank our dedicated board members, volunteers, consultants and employees. Their efforts have allowed us to strengthen our organization and better understand the issues faced by our communities.

On behalf of the board and staff of GCK, we wish to express our most sincere appreciation for our funding partners, Child Fund India, Give India, Jan Vikas Samiti, FVTRS, BOSCH, AU Foundation and Caritas India. We are indebted to these individuals and organizations for their professional and financial assistance that helped Gram Chetna Kendra move forward.

My greatest appreciation most go to my entire staff and those in the project area and the communities with whom we work every day. We work as an agent of social change by implementing community-based projects in rural areas and with marginalized populations and our work would not be possible without the efforts of the communities that carry the projects jointly with us.












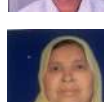

We are looking forward for very promising prospects in the following year and hope that, with the support of our funding partners, we will again have a very successful year filled with new accomplishments and goals that are just as great as the last.

OM PRAKASH SHARMA

Secretary and Founder



MEMBERS OF BOARD

Photo	Name, position, contact	Introduction
	Mr. Govind Narayan Sharma Chairman gnsharmacpu@rediffmail.com	Lecturer, has an experience of 12 years working with UNICEF as a consultant in the field of Health and Community Development in Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Delhi. He also worked as a consultant for other grassroots level NGOs in the sector
	Mr. Bajrang Singh Vice- President 9828727749	He was a Sarpanch of Sursinghpura Panchayat for 5 years and has been working with village communities for the last 20 years. He has also done several works on education community development with Akansha (NGO) in his village- Mahlayawas. He has been working with GCK from 11 years.
	Mr Om Prakash Sharma Secretary Gck_1989@yahoo.com 9829017134	Mr. Sharma is the holder of a BA and a Masters of Social Work. He is among the founders of the organization and has been a development professional for the last 30 years.
	Mrs. Surekha Sharma Member 9660328603	Mrs. Surekha was been working with GCK as a supporting partner and advisor issues related Gender discrimination and domestic violence at the village level. She also a trainer in animal husbandry.
	Mr. Girvar Singh Rathore Member 9784513042	He is a community-based analyst in livelihood. He has a good understanding of working on village level awareness & capacity building programs. He is supporting GCK through advocacy on capacity building and other social issues
	Mr. Subhash Joshi Member 9414011400	Mr. Joshi is a master trainer on child and women issues with the State Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) department.
	Mr. Kedar Mal Jat Member 9829018332	He is the holder of a Masters in Education and works as a facilitator on Quality Education with the Government of Rajasthan.
	Mr. Narendra Solanki Member 9414079903	Mr. Solanki holds a Masters in Social Work and is currently working as a management and accounts specialist at Rajasthan Voluntary Health Association.
	Mr. Shyam Sunder Sharma Member 9950010061	He is a freelance social worker. He has been working with GCK in the field of community awareness and skill development. He has a good understanding of the implementation of the different programs at the village level.
	Mrs. Simran Kumawat Member 7877014737	She is the holder of a MA and is a freelance counselor for differently able children's mainstreaming into society and other issues linked to disability.
	Mrs. Santosh Verma Member 9982227676	Mrs. Verma is the secretary of the Women Federation in Sambhar Block, Jaipur Rajasthan. She is an active member of women-led Community-Based Organizations in the project area.
	Mr. Banshidhar Yadav Member 9982607272	He is the president of the Federation of Village Development Committees in Sambhar Block, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
	Mrs. Sita Devi Member 8560841893	She is currently working at Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation limited, Jaipur and she is an experienced trainer in dairy development.

YOUTH-LED DEVELOPMENT

Gram Chetna Kendra is trying is best to mobilize the unemployed youth. Our projects are developed in an area where there are very few employment opportunities and people are engaged in daily or seasonal migration to work. We aim to empower the communities to significantly and sustainably enhance their livelihoods security, with a special emphasis on youth and women.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Khedi Miak village, Jaipur district, Rajasthan

Our vocational training center was put in place in 2014 to provide the youth in the project area with soft and hard skills for them to be able to join the job market or to develop entrepreneurship in order to contribute to job creations.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- This year, we trained 105 youths in the electrician trade.
- In the context of this specific trade, 77 youths have been linked to employment
- Over the past 5 years, we trained 1095 youth in different trades through the training center, with 87% placement



VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

5 villages of Sambhar Block, Jaipur district, Rajasthan

Through an action research programme following the SCOPE (Skilling Community-based Owned Promotion and Enhancement) model and principles of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), we identified youth dropouts in the community and provided them with vocational trainings on the ground, followed by employment opportunities.

This year, we provided trainings on food processing, masonry, sarees making, nursery rising and vermi compost making, paper bag manufacturing, beautician and basic electrician. The youth are tracked for one year after the completion of the project, with support mechanisms including career guidance, capacity-building on marketing and business skills, linkages with government departments, industries, banks and other agencies to facilitate access to employment and loans. We put a strong emphasis on community ownership through the actions of the village skills committees and the formation of Skills Net Groups during each training.



ACHIEVEMENTS

- 23 youth were trained in the preparation of different food items. They were all linked to employment.
- 10 youths benefited from mason training, among which 8 were employed after the training.
- 26 young women were trained in saree making, and 20 are now self-employed.
- 17 youth were trained in nursery rising and vermi compost making, and are currently making profit from these activities.
- 22 youth were trained in bag making, 16 are now self-employed.
- 12 young women received a beautician training, and 10 have now been employed.
- 23 youths were trained in basic electrician, and 14 are now employed.
- In total, these activities have allowed 108 youths to be linked to employment or sel-employment.

SUCCESS STORIES

The story of Bajrang Singh Mason training in Sursingpura village



Bajrang was an unemployed youth, as many others in the project area, seeking for an opportunity to earn and support his parents. One of Bajrang's friends, who was part of a Skill Net Development Group, forwarded the information to the Village Skill Committee, who identified 9 more youth that were in the same situation. After consulting them about their interest for the training, those youth and Bajrang were integrated into a mason training that lasted for one month. They all were subsequently linked to mason contractors and enrolled in daily labour work. Bajrang is earning around Rs 14 000 a month, and is able to fully support himself and help his family.

The Village Skill Committee in Karvasa identified 15 women interested in sarees making and elaborated a skills development plan. The training took place for 4 months, after which the women were linked to the nearby markets. The women purchase the raw material, design and make the sarees together, for 3 to 4 hours a day. They are also responsible for marketing and accounting. They design approximately 300 sarees a month and each woman is getting around Rs 5000 to 6000 from the activities. More importantly, women are independent, confident and happy about their work and the financial security of their households has been drastically improved.

Sarees Making

Jai Bhavani Skill Net Group, Karvasa



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

At GCK, we are striving for gender equality. We are providing vulnerable women in the communities with opportunities to enhance their capacities and skills through trainings, access to livelihood enhancement, awareness on rights, increase in financial literacy and self-organization mechanisms. We are facilitating the strengthening and formation of women-led community based organizations, to allow for women ownership in our different projects.

WOMEN FEDERATION

**25 villages of Sambhar Block, Jaipur district, Rajasthan
Facilitated and monitored by Gram Chetna Kendra**

Gram Chetna Kendra has facilitated the activities of 1 Women Federation, currently regrouping **110 SHGs and 1410 women**. The Women Federation is a platform for the women to share their views, address the social, economic and cultural issues they are facing and engage a dialogue about it. The Federation is responsible for the development of entrepreneurship activities, the provisions of loans to SHGs, cooperation with different officials and financial institutions and monitoring of the activities of all the SHGs.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 20 SHG bank accounts opened
- 2 record keeping trainings for SHG women
- Loans provided through external banks to 22 SHGs for a total value of Rs 5 500 000
- Internal loans provided by the Federation to 3 SHGs for a total value of Rs 800 000
- 10 new SHGs, regrouping 119 women, formed.



UDYOGINI: "BUSINESS WOMEN"

5 villages of Sambhar Block, Jaipur district, Rajasthan

In order to enhance the livelihood security of women in the project area and following the vocational trainings in spices and vermi compost making, GCK launched the Udyogoni ("Business woman") project in 2019. The aim is to provide self-employment of the women through the selling of spices (chilli, coriander, turmeric powders) that they transform by themselves. The women have been trained on leadership, market analysis, business management, digitalization, access to financements and accounting. They have been provided with the equipment to start their business and contracted loans for the purchase of the raw material. Links have also been made with different markets and potential customers. The organization is now self-run and women are managing their business independently and with pride.



ACHIEVEMENTS

- Official registration of the business, 'Maa Annapurna Masala' and obtention of a food licence.
- 56 women employed in 5 villages. The women are able to make an additional income of Rs 3000 to 5000 monthly, thus enhancing their families' economic security.
- The women run the business independently and confidently, from the purchase of raw materials to the sales.



Ma Annapurna Masala

<https://www.facebook.com/Maa-Annapurna-Masala-100791331608951/>

INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

We are working towards a more inclusive society for differently abled people. By raising awareness and fostering participation at different levels regarding tolerance and access to rights for people with disabilities, we are seeking to create an environment where every member of the community is respected and valued.



PROMOTING COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

28 villages of Ramganj Mandi, Kota district, Rajasthan

The project relies on the formation of disabled people led organizations (DPOs) and community mobilization for the better inclusion of people with disabilities in the society. We facilitate the engagement of DPOs and villagers with government and other service providers such as banks, to ensure service and entitlements to needy persons in the communities. This project allows for an improvement in the health, education, mobility and employment status of the differently abled people in the project area.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 50 differently able persons received a disability certificate
- 11 received assistive devices
- Since the beginning of the project, 44 children were reintegrated in schools and 216 differently able persons became members of DPOs.
- Children are more included in the communities, they participate in sports activities and are integrated into child clubs
- 6 youngsters with disabilities started an economic activity and are now self-employed.
- 5 youngsters were linked to formal employment.
- 29 differently able persons received financial help through government schemes.

INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNGSTERS WITH DISABILITIES

35 villages of Sambhar Block, Jaipur district, Rajasthan

The project started in 2009 with the aim of making selected disabled people independent and self-reliant. Several activities were carried out to provide assistance and rehabilitation to these individuals, increase community and family participation, foster access to education and enhance economic independence. In the day care centre, children and youths receive physiotherapy and education, and can participate to leisure activities. They are provided, through the project, with equipments adapted to their disability and also get the occasion to organize in child groups and persons with disabilities associations. Linkages with different government schemes and employment opportunities are established and the community as a whole is impacted through awareness raising and counselling of parents, teachers, Anganwadi and Balwadi workers, government officials and community leaders.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 20 children regularly attend our daycare center
- Our team proceeded to the home visit and parents counselling for 88 families
- 57 care givers and 19 Gram Panchayat representatives attended our trainings on the rights of persons with disabilities.
- 40 differently able children received physiotherapy care.
- 6 children were linked to formal education (primary and secondary) and 4 young girls were linked to skills training
- 40 AWW, BWW, ASHA and remedial teachers were trained on the special needs of the persons with disabilities
- We trained school teachers, SMC members and PRI leaders on the inclusion of differently able children.
- We reached out to 140 community members through an awareness programme on health issues.
- The advocacy forum on disabilities and the DPOs conduct regular meetings.
- 114 differently able children and community members obtained government support (disabled car, social security scheme, aid and equipments).



AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIVELIHOODS

Towards integrated and sustainable farming practices We are working with a population which is in majority rural and depends on agriculture for livelihood. Our programmes with smallholders farmers aim for income enhancement through the adoption of eco-friendly practices and the diversification of agriculture.

FARMERS INCOME ENHANCEMENT THROUGH DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURE AND LIVELIHOOD PROMOTION

Agriculture and animal husbandry: 27 villages of Bassi Block, Jaipur district, Rajasthan

Animal care: 18 villages of Sanganer Block, Jaipur district

The project consists in achieving economies of scale through livelihood development for smallholders farmers. By integrating agriculture, horticulture, dairy, water management, and through the use of agricultural technology and market innovations, we aim to foster the financial security of poor rural households. Diverse activities have been carried out, such as the promotion and access to micro irrigation, trainings and provision of seeds for the cultivation of wheat, chilli and tomato, promotion of horticulture, linkages with government schemes, livestock vaccination, making of organic pesticides. SHGs and Farmers organizations have been formed and strengthened and farmers in the projects have been trained in a wide range of issues related to agriculture.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 10 farmers benefited from micro irrigation (mini sprinkler) based demonstrations
- 60 farmers benefited from the promotion and provision of seeds of wheat, tomato and chilli crops, 25 benefited from orchard promotion and 30 from fodder cultivation.
- 45 farmers started producing vermi compost
- 13889 animals were vaccinated
- 67 trainings were conducted on different crops production, new agricultural technologies and sustainable methods of production.
- 60 family size biogas plants installed
- One women dairy formed employing 20 women



SUCCESS STORIES

Women-led dairy

Bhajupura Village



SHG women members of Bhajupura collectively presented the proposal in SHG meetings to launch startup of dairy business. On the month of February, SHG women members started collecting and selling milk through the women dairy. 20 families are currently collecting and submitting milk into the women dairy. Every day, these women are collecting around 150.8 kg of milk. Each woman is able to earn an average of Rs 7000 per month through milk collection. The women are getting a fair price for their milk, they are enthusiastically and confidently working for the dairy, and this brings a sense of ownership and leadership to them.

Mr. Gopal Lal Sharma is an active member of the farmers' group in Kishanpura village. Through the project and government support, he obtained a mini sprinkler system in 2017-18. Under the guidance of the project team, Gopal Ji is cultivating rose, jasmine, papaya and lemon on one fourth of its land. He is using vermi compost on the totality of his land and also started to market it. With the help of his family members, he prepared various plants from seeds in his nursery. He is producing about thirty thousand plants in a year, and earns an average of Rs 100 000 yearly by selling them at wholesale rates in Jaipur. 15 to 20 farmers visited his farm and learned about technology-based innovations and organic methods of cultivation.

Organic horticulture

Gopa Lal Sharma, Kishanpura village



FAMILY WELFARE AND SUPPORT TO CHILDREN

We are working to improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable segments of society, and especially women and children. The following programmes have been designed to help individual families and enhance access to basic amenities.

INDIVIDUAL DONATION PROGRAM

155 villages of Sambhar Block, Jaipur district, Rajasthan

Different projects come under the individual donation programme:

- The provision of water facilities for families living in drought-prone areas of Rajasthan.
- The construction of toilets for a very poor village family, to contribute to the reduction of unhygienic and unhealthy defecating practices
- Funding the support of care and therapy for 15 children with disabilities
- Support a very poor girl or boy by providing basic school supplies and toiletries for one year



ACHIEVEMENTS

- 12 water tanks were constructed, benefiting 60 families
- The project provided support for 6 differently able children
- 24 poor girls and 6 poor boys were supported with the provision of school supplies and toiletries
- Toilets were constructed in the houses of 4 families

FAMILY HELPER PROJECT

33 villages of Sambhar Block, Jaipur district and Tijara Block, Alwar district, Rajasthan

The project is a sponsorship program benefiting individual children, their families and the whole community. The objectives are to improve the nutrition status and maternal and child health services in the project area. We also aim to reach children aged 3 to 5 and enhance the quality of Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) services that are provided to them and improve their health. This objective is met through working with preschool teachers, Aganwadis and Balwadi workers, and by raising awareness among the parents and caregivers on issues related to health, education and development of children. In the education sector, we aim to enhance the access to quality education through community participation and encouraging mainstream education systems into the villages. In order to facilitate a greater change and have effective dent on the core issues, we adopted a strategy in collusion with the children, the community and key stakeholders. The project focuses on children in the age group of 6 to 14. We put a peculiar attention on minimizing the gender gaps in education and promote the access to quality education

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Reduced malnutrition among under-5 years old children
- Improved maternal health services and better institutional delivery
- The community and the major stakeholders are sensitized on child rights and related issues.
- Children are enjoying an improved health status in schools of project area
- Children are participating into extra curricular activities
- The children received support for schooling and other living expenses through sponsors



PARTNERS AND NETWORKING

CURRENT PARTNERS



NETWORKING

Gram Chetna Kendra is part of the following networks:



Rajasthan
Voluntary Health
Association
(RVHA)

ARAVALI

Association for Rural
Advancement through Voluntary
Action (ARAVALI)



The Catholic Health
Association of India



LOKH MUNCH

Gram Chetna Kendra is part of a network composed of the following NGOs:

- Gramin Ekta Bal Shiksha Samiti, Khandel
- Kheti Evam Gaon Vikas Sansthan
- Uagriyabas Jagagariti Kendra
- Lokarpan Sansthan, Govindi
- Gramin Vikas Sansthan
- Manav Kalyan Vidhyapith Sansthan
- Sangharsh Sansthan Dhandholi
- Rural Development and Children Welfare Society
- Samajik Chetna Evam Takniki Sansthan
- Jan Sewa Samiti
- Lok Vikas Sansthan, Sarwad
- Gramin Manav Kalyan Shikshan Sansthan

AWARDS AND ACCREDITATION

Community Strengthening

GCK Youth Advocacy Forum and Youth Groups

Child Federation, Child Groups

Women Federation, 126 SHGs

Disabled advocacy forum

Village Development Committees

Accreditation

Guidestar India

Credibility Alliance

QCI

The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995

Give India

AWARDS

National Adolescents Day, 2019

Gram Chetna Kendra has been rewarded by the Women and Child Development Department, Government of Rajasthan, on 24th January 2019 for its contribution for Adolescents & women, empowerment and the fight for their rights. Smt. Mamta Bhupesh (Minister of Women and Child Development, Rajasthan), Smt. Gayatri A. Rathore (Principal Secretary, Minister of Women and Child Development Rajasthan), Ms. Krishna Pooniya (CWG Gold Medalist 2010). The representatives provided a memento, an award certificate and 25000/- for the organization. The chief Minister of Rajasthan, Mr. Ashok Gehlot, also personally shared his gratitude to GCK Team for winning this award for community development.

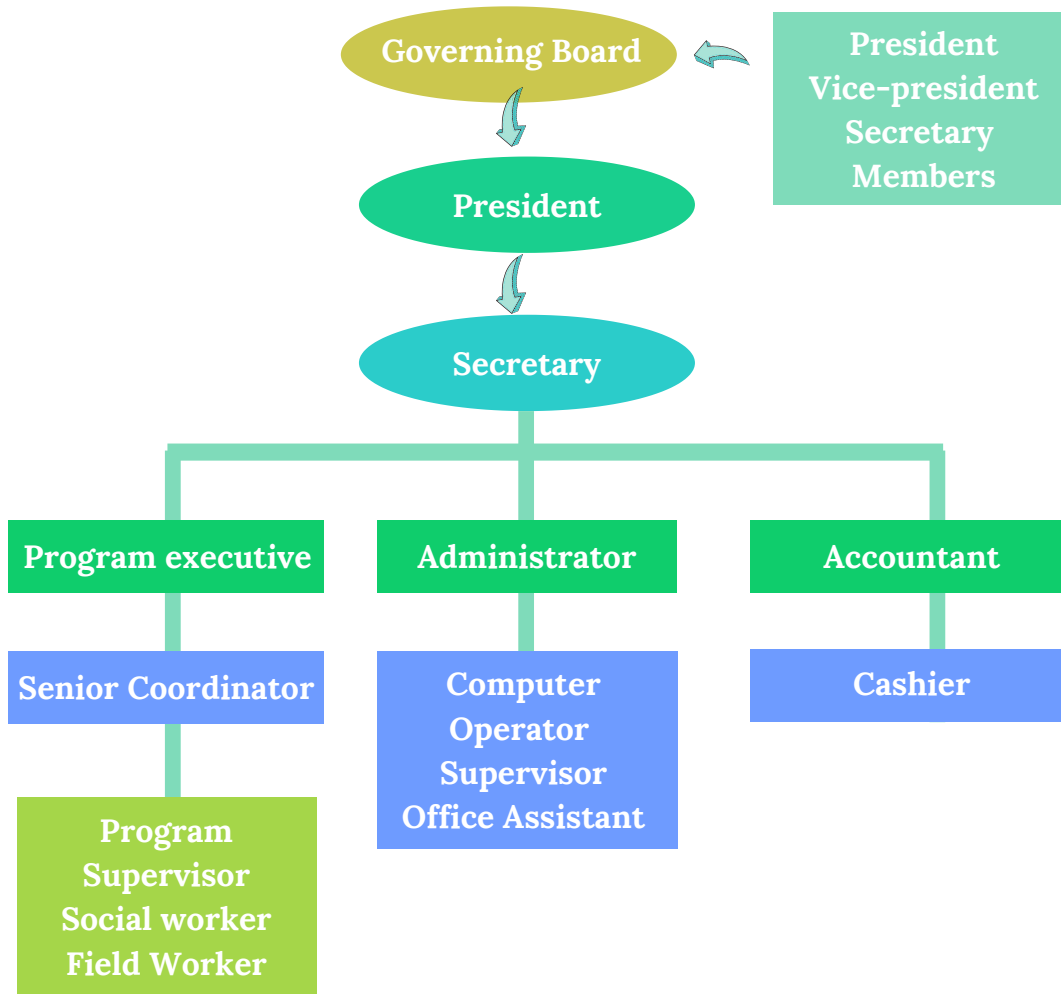


Spirits of Humanity, 2019



Gram Chetna Kendra was awarded the “Spirits of Humanity” award in the education category by Americares on September 26th, 2019. The organization was awarded for its contribution in education with the “Building Basic Skills” programme, in Sambhar Block, Jaipur district and Tijara Block, Alwar district, Rajasthan. The program aims to support drop-out children and children with learning difficulties to develop their numeracy, literacy and life skills for age-appropriate learning. The whole community was mobilized to improve the quality of education in the project area. The project was implemented in numerous villages in the area and reached out to 58476 beneficiaries.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



STAFF

Full time	Part time	Volunteers	Consultants
18	3	5	3

Vision

GCK intends for unrelenting efforts to initiate people-based development interventions in order to ensure just and equal opportunities and minimum basic essentials to all with a dignified and higher quality of life for the rural populations

Mission

To bring awareness in the rural populations through democratic means so as to empower them and help them in gaining control over all factors that affect their individual lives and the community at large.

Goal

Initiation of catalytic interventions for ensuring partner and community-need based socio-economic self-reliance for the deprived and poverty-stricken rural masses.

Belief

It is the belief of GCK that the rural populations have an enormous potential to develop their skills and knowledge and take advantage of their available local resources. Thus, we feel that it is in the best interest of the communities to provide them with the necessary information and initial tools to begin the process of social integration, education, and economic development. For us, it is essential to collaborate for the populations to accept responsibility and take initiatives in developing their communities further.




GRAM CHETNA KENDRA

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 Gram chetna kendra

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