# » QUARTELY NEWSLETTER«

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2025



Overcoming barriers, creating futures...

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# SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES

The year is almost at a close, and we could not be any happier about the significant milestones we have reached in 2025. Key among them is the nearly completed home for our beneficiaries, which is now 80% finished the roofing is completely thatched! You might find yourself asking why a thatched roof. For us, this was the most environmentally friendly option, and we wanted to try, in as much as possible, to use

materials that the children could relate to. Since most of them will be coming from rural communities where houses traditionally have thatched roofs, we aim to create an environment that feels familiar. Project Mukundi seeks to create a place where our beneficiaries can truly feel at home, and our design is central to this vision.

The open-space layout will allow for constant engagement, between the children and their caregivers. The design has very few physical barriers with the aim of fostering a strong sense of safety and security. By engaging in tasks individually and together with their caregiver, the children will develop a sense of personal autonomy and strong community/socialization skills. Our beneficiaries will have a safe, secure home where they are loved and cared for. Now that the construction of our first shelter is almost complete, we look forward to the final steps; completing the shelter and starting the crucial process of furnishing it so that we can finally welcome children under our care.







### **INTERGRATION**

The 4<sup>th</sup> pillar of our orphan care model is flourishing! This pillar is

crucial; it ensures our beneficiaries are well-integrated into the community and not secluded, which helps prevent stigma.

Early this year, a few of our beneficiaries initiated our current ICT project at a local school, which immediately prompted us to take action. What began as an information technology-themed camp with just 20 children quickly exploded in popularity, ultimately impacting more than 250 children (ages five to fifteen) in a rural community disadvantaged by the digital divide.

We couldn't be more excited about this rapid development! To ensure our impact is lasting and broad, we have begun discussions with the school to establish new co-curricular clubs.

These clubs will focus on environmental issues, aligning with the themes already covered in our current camps. This new platform will achieve two major goals i.e., to ensure that the knowledge and skills are transferred not just to our 20 beneficiaries, but also to other children in the community and to give our beneficiaries a platform to lead their peers, reinforcing the information they've learned and solidifying their skills. This integration is creating confident, skilled leaders right in their own community. On the other hand, based on a request from the school's faculty, we are now simultaneously expanding the program to include the teachers as well. We will be carrying out specialized ICT sessions with them to help them become computer literate.

## A FULL CIRCLE MOMENT



From May-August 2025, our founder returned

to kanthari, the social impact leadership training institute in India where the vision for Mukundi was first born. This time, she went not as a participant, but as a co-catalyst, providing training to kanthari's 2025 batch of future social impact leaders. This experience offers a powerful testament to how far Mukundi has come.

Here is what she had to say about her experience, "Being back at kanthari was an amazing experience, particularly because I returned as a founder who had left with just an idea for social change. A year and a half later, I was back with tangible milestones reached each representing social impact. While I co-facilitated sessions for





this year's participants, I learnt and re-learnt a lot. I was now looking at the entire experience through the perspective of founder running a social impact organization, which made the experience incredibly enriching. By the time I left kanthari for the second time, I was reenergized with purpose and passion to fulfill Mukundi's mission; to create environments where orphans not only access their immediate needs but also develop the necessary skills and mindsets to navigate real-world complexities with confidence as they transition into adulthood."

## LANGUAGE THEMED CAMP



Micah, an incredible 8-year-old boy, has faced multiple challenges. After losing both his parents to HIV, he was left with abusive caregivers who neglected him causing him to fall seriously ill. Thankfully at the age of five, his loving grandmother took him in and caringly

nursed him back to health. Many doubted he would recover, but he persevered, and we are grateful for his progress. (Continued on next page.....)

Micah's traumatic early years likely disrupted his cognitive function. He has a short memory and difficulties with comprehension. However, we are filled with hope because we've observed that Micah thrives with multisensory learning.

Therefore, as we continue our language-themed camp we are making use of various creative methods. We want all the children, including others who face similar barriers as Micah, have an equal opportunity to learn. We look forward to celebrating Micah's development of basic reading and writing skills in the near future!





## FROM LEARNING TO LEADING: OUR CLIMATE RESPONDERS EMERGE!

#### INTRODUCTION >>>

We're proud to announce the successful completion the earth and climate themed camp with twenty or our 8 to 12 year old beneficiaries! The aim was to empower our beneficiaries to become active responders in the face of the current climate crisis.

### **ACTIVE RESPONDERS?** >>>

In our community, several human practices are harming our environment and climate. By exploring the Earth's climate specifically why it makes our planet uniquely survivable compared to others in the solar system our beneficiaries immediately rose to the task of making a contribution toward protection. This energy emerged after a simulation activity where the children were challenged to find local environmental problems and devise solutions. The simulation saw them observing, researching, and documenting challenges such as habitat loss due to fires and deforestation.

### CHILD LED SOLUTIONS >>>

earth and climate they want

The children's response was decisive. One of the primary solutions they devised was to initiate a tree planting exercise in their community. They are taking their role very seriously. They are currently busy collecting seeds to plant in a small nursery. We are working to prepare a secure area for them to establish this nursery a safe place where their hard work won't be disrupted or destroyed by animals. This camp proves that children can drive meaningful, positive change.

## >>> WHAT COMES NEXT

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- Water conservation themed camp.
- Continuation of our language themed camp; psychosocial support activities; and integration programs.
- Making preparations to take in children under our care.

dren observing soil erosion happening