

# GIRLS AS COMMUNITY PILLARS FOR RELIEF AND RESTORATION PROGRAMS

Children advocating, mobilizing, raising awareness, informing and communicating.

Asia and the Pacific: India

100 girl champions (ages 12-18 years old) that Protsahan had deeply invested in from 2010 onwards, became the community pillars for Protsahan's relief and restoration programs during Covid-19.

1. Access to Learning kits (so that the children in community don't drop out of the schooling system),
2. Access to Protein kits (as schools shut, the mid-day meal programmes shut, and the children didn't have access to nutritious food as their families sunk into deep financial debt caused by covid created job losses and more),
3. Access to digital devices and online education in remote slums with a focus on adolescent girls,
4. Dry rations and cooked meals to over 4,00,000 individuals at the margins below the poverty line,
5. Strengthening Child Protection Services with direct training support for frontline Childline 1098 functionaries,
6. Access to information related to Covid-19 in slum communities where social distancing is almost impossible and water supply to wash hands not attainable easily,
7. Surveying and Documenting adolescent girls' experiences,
8. Access to mental health counseling services for young girls, children and women were some of the core areas of impact by us.

For specifically psychosocial support logistics, our social workers are in direct contact with the children in the communities where we work through phone calls and whatsapps and the contact points of direct ration distribution in 19 communities in Delhi as of now.

For specifically the manual we've built for UNICEF & Childline: In the context of COVID-19, it focuses solely on psychosocial care of children and prevention of violence in spaces where children stay (child care institutions, homes, NGO shelters etc.). It also helps understand mental health implications due to the stressful conditions created during the pandemic and the increased risk of violence and abuse due these conditions and provides resources for caregivers to help engage with children positively and effectively. Additionally we're critically providing psychosocial first aid and legal counseling on child abuse and sexual and gender based violence cases that we're seeing in the direct communities and those of our partner organizations during these times in partnership with local police authorities.

**Protsahan India Foundation**

