



AAWAJ

ANNUAL REPORT

**"Our Future is
Bright"**

APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023

**Presented By: Aawaj
Jankalyan Samiti, Madhya
Pradesh**

172, BHARAT NAGAR, BHOPAL

FOREWORD

ANOTHER YEAR OF MANIFESTING & STRIVING OUR ALLEGIANCE

This year, we have expanded our work to another three districts, reiterating our resolve to combat human trafficking. After this, Aawaj has now emerged as a group working against human trafficking at all the three levels, source, transit and destination in Madhya Pradesh. Aawaj has also done ground research on human trafficking this year. Aawaj has also made efforts to rehabilitate about 200 children by rescuing them.

This year has also been a glorious one for Aawaj because Madhya Pradesh's Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan honored our Chhatarpur District Coordinator Shivam Tiwari with the "Asli Hero" Award for doing ground work in the field of human trafficking. This recognition has increased the responsibilities of the Aawaj against human trafficking.

This year, Aawaj also found that there has been an unprecedented increase in Covid vaccination, people have become aware, but these services have still not reached to certain communities in some parts of the state. Whatever may be the reason behind it, be it lack of resources or lack of will power or misconceptions. Aawaj in collaboration with the Health Department (Madhya Pradesh) under the "Reaching to the Unreached" program conducted a comprehensive vaccination campaign by reaching out to the vulnerable communities in the local language/dialect through folk artistes in those scenes/tolas/habitations, which were largely unreached and it was successful.

The positive energy of the youth has always been the hallmark of positive efforts, in such a situation, this year too, the Aawaj along with the youth gave momentum to the child protection efforts at the Madhya Pradesh level. We reached out to both campus and community through child protection clubs at state level and made meaningful efforts. In the same queue, we made creative efforts by selecting the youth through AAGAZ internships and speeding up their innovations.

Throughout this journey, we acknowledge all the donor organizations, individuals, state and district level officials, communities, their traditional leaders, children, and youth who have shown faith in Aawaj's efforts. We are also thankful to the board members of Aawaj without their support, constant co-operation, guidance and monitoring this entire journey would not have been possible. In the end, we also show our gratitude to the team who do all these things in the field and become the right agents of change.

Prashant Dubey
Director, AAWAJ





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ABOUT AAWAJ

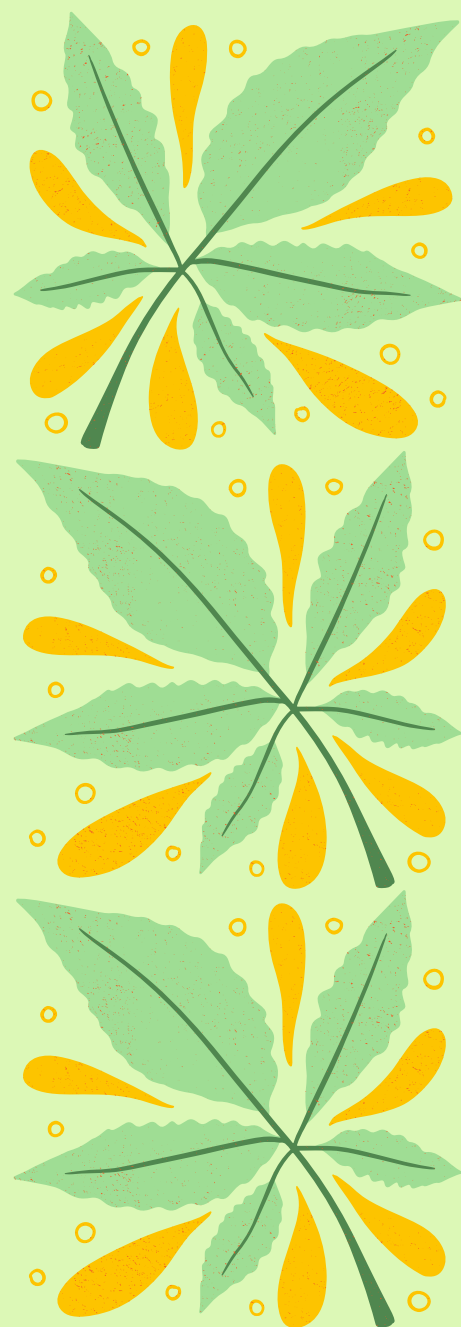
Background & Priorities



To build a just and equitable society wherein the poor and marginalized and those on the threshold of poverty are able to secure themselves and have a life of dignity. Aawaj aims in enabling marginalized communities to access most of facilities through peaceful and democratic means and generate a process wherein collectivity, participation and shared wisdom of stakeholders and young people is ensured all through.

The objective of Aawaj is to develop an understanding of local good governance and self-governance, to make the local community conscious of its prerogatives and to develop their capabilities in a way that they are able to defend and enforce their entitlements on their own. We believe that more than working for people what is required is to work with them. Thus, in Aawaj we are trying to create society which is aware, well informed and which is based on deliberated alternatives.

We visualize our work at multiple levels. First and foremost of which is to develop our own understanding of an issue, then to develop the capability of the community and thus to work for betterment of the society. We work to raise public awareness by spreading information about different schemes, policies and rules in a way that people are able to access the facilities on their own. Our key working areas are ensuring participation of young people, their development and to create protective environment for children in every manner.



Vision, Mission & Objectives

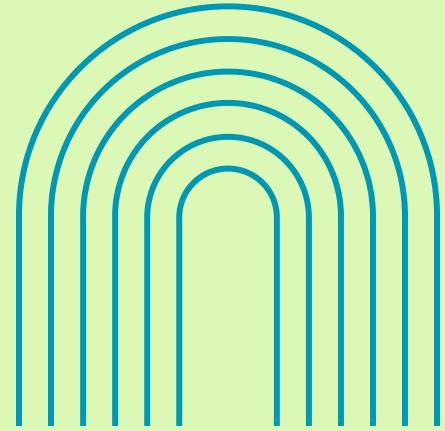
Vision

To build a just and equitable society wherein the poor and marginalized and those on the threshold of poverty is able to secure their Constitutional Rights & become aware of constitutional duties and have a life of dignity.



Mission

Enabling marginalized communities to know their Constitutional rights & duties and public entitlements and access most of them through peaceful and democratic means and generate a process wherein collectivity, participation and shared wisdom of stakeholders are ensured all through.

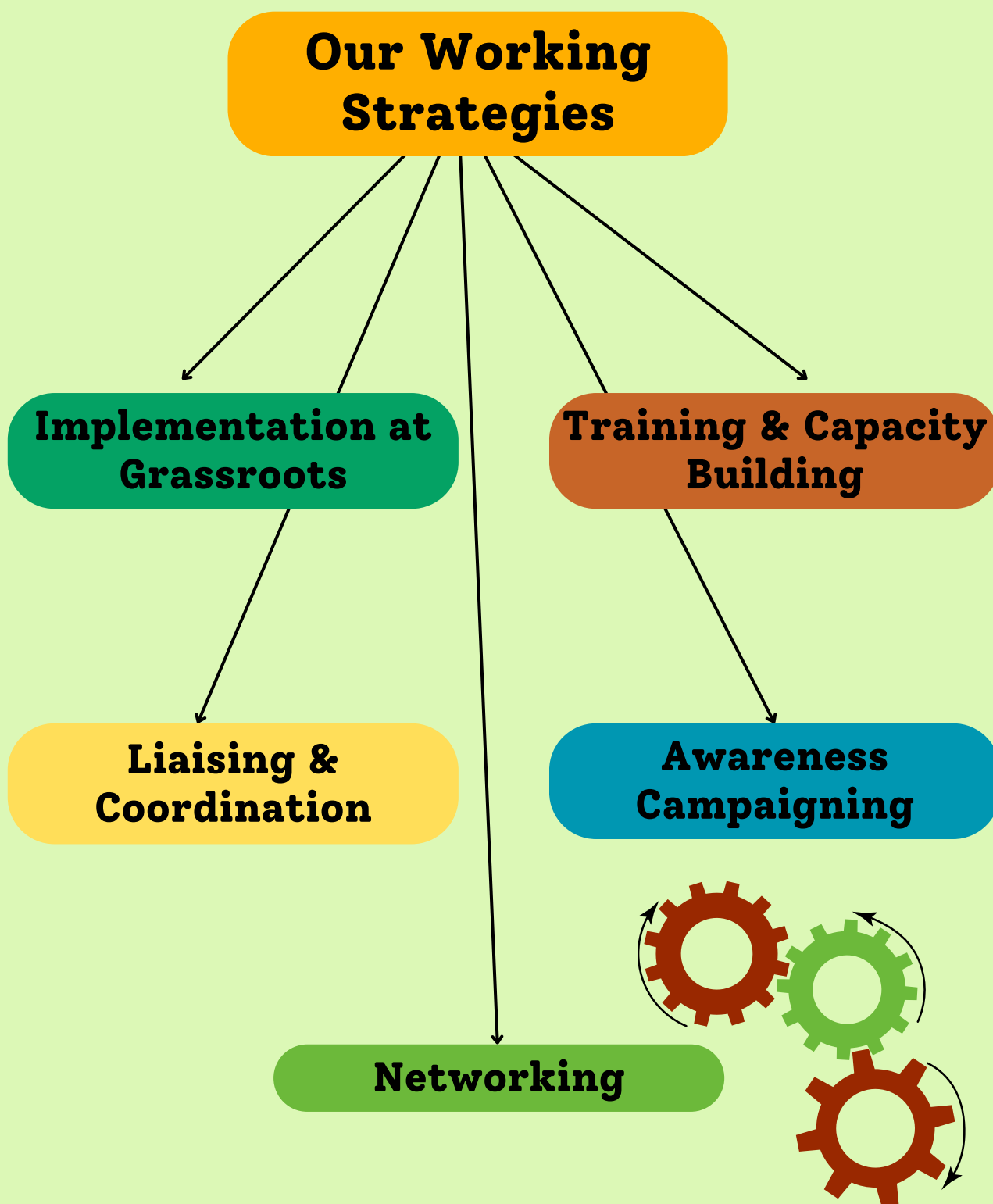


OBJECTIVES

- Aawaj works with the disadvantaged sections to inform them about their constitutional rights & duties.
- Aawaj works to ensure participation of the youth in good governance and to develop them for active citizenship. It is also instrumental in ensuring their access to their basic rights (education, health, protection and employment).
- Aawaj works for implementation of child rights and also works in the issue of child trafficking.
- Aawaj works with Youth for development.
- Aawaj works on the issues of gender discrimination, inequality & other related issues.



Working Strategies



Implementation at Grassroots

We strongly believe that without implementation at grass root it is impossible to find base for the change and support. Sometime without any string evidence of grass root we jump into the awareness processes which don't give positive results which create negative impact on community and stakeholder. Thus the organization feels that grass root work is important and its impulse will be seen in policy level issues.

Training & Capacity Building

The organization believes in capacity building processes at various levels i.e. from community to stakeholder. Also it is important to have fresher course for all the stakeholders. We believe building the capacity of community is utmost important, without this it is impossible to visible change.

Liaising & Coordination

It is strongest part of the organization. AAWAJ support the departments working on child protection issues in sharing and raising the issues at state as well as national level with concerning government departments and authorities followed by working on the same with it.

Networking

We believe that one organization cannot bring change at the policy level. It is important to have the issue based networking with the groups or people to bring change in the policy and to benefit the target groups.

Awareness Campaigning

Campaign is generally a sustained effort to educate individuals and boost public awareness about any cause or issue. So, we always use this tool to raise our issue and achieve positive impacts. It helps us in generating new contacts and educates those potential supporters about our cause.



Coverage

Aawaj is based in Madhya Pradesh and working in many districts of it on various causes. We are working in **Balaghat, Betul, Chhatarpur, Mandla, Katni and Sagar more intensively** and covering issues related child trafficking.

Aawaj also worked with the **young people from 52 districts** of Madhya Pradesh in collaboration of National Service Scheme to strengthen them as torchbearers in raising the issues of Child Protection in their particular areas.

We also worked post-pandemic for the COVID vaccination of people belongs to marginalized and challenging communities.



UPSHOTS OF THE YEAR

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3567

Stakeholders & govt. officials are trained on the issues of Child Protection & trafficking through 214 trainings.

184

Cases of CNCP Children get reported, 30 children connected to schools and 50 are rehabilitated till now.

990

Members of BCPC and PCPC are capacitated on child protection related issues and their roles & responsibilities.

55694

Youth engaged directly through various programs.

237129

Community People engaged through various activities.

16364

Children engaged through various interventions.

350

CP Clubs activated across 52 districts of M.P.

2518000

People reached through social media and other indirect mediums.

9159

People reached through COVID awareness campaigns.

19800

People surveyed from marginalized communities to know their vaccination status.

8702

People from most marginalized communities got vaccinated under the program.

56260

Young People trained on issues of child protection through 79 trainings.

ISSUES, FOCUS & APPROACHS

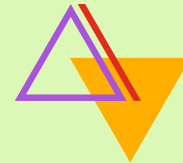
• CHILDREN

We are always concerned about the children, but we are not sensitized enough to protect children and to ensure even their basic human rights. Nationally, Governments are committed to ensure these rights and creating a safe environment for children. Keeping light on the best interest of children, various policies and structures are constantly being developed and departmental actions are being undertaken timely and regularly. Despite so many efforts across the nation, the situation of children's protection seems to be in limbo. The circumstances in Madhya Pradesh are more unfortunate regarding these issues. Numerous reports highlighting crimes and violence against children show that the safety of children in Madhya Pradesh has gone out of control. A large number of children are being abused and are victims of serious forms of violence. These matters are not only of today or tomorrow, but for the last decade instead of improving, the situation is getting worse. This situation of children in Madhya Pradesh leads us to work for the protection rights of children in multiple ways.



• YOUNG PEOPLE

Young people leave footprints of breaking stereotypes and making change in their communities. We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth to create beautiful present and cheerful future for the generations. If young people are directed in the right direction with a vision, and considered as change makers with keeping an immense believe in them, they can influence outcomes and achieve real change. All we have to do is encourage them to use their potentials and give them spaces to do it. We have observed in many of our interventions with young people that they are capable of identifying what is wrong in their communities and do not hesitate in leading the change by questioning the stereotypes because they have creative minds focused more on the present and moving forward, whereas older generations merely come to accept the societal ills and oddities as norms. That is why we promote young people's participation for the protection of children.



Civic Engagement and Participation of Youth & Adolescents for Children's Protection with Gender Transformative Approach

With the aim of creating a safe environment for children and making people aware about it, Madhya Pradesh Government's Higher Education Department, Aawaj Jan Kalyan Samiti and UNICEF M.P. started a project under the joint aegis in the year 2019.

The concept of this project was that better results can come out if the capacity of the youth associated with the National Service Scheme is increased on issues related to child protection. There was plan of training young volunteers associated with the scheme and preparing them as 'leaders/champions'. After training, these volunteers went to their communities and started creating public awareness on the issue of child protection, and also tried to bring sensitivity among their college batchmates.

This project is being implemented in all the seven university campuses of Madhya Pradesh (Barkatullah University, Bhopal and Rani Durgavati University, Jabalpur, Jiwaji University, Gwalior, Devi Ahilya University, Indore, Vikram University, Ujjain, Maharaja Chhatrasal University, Chhatarpur and Awadhesh Pratap Singh University, Rewa) is being done so that the youth can understand the topic on a large scale and also make necessary interventions. For this, Aawaj, UNICEF and NSS jointly conducted the programs focusing on some special themes; Ending Violence Against Children (EVAC), Promoting Youth Participation and Leadership, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support to Children and Adolescents (MHPSS) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

CHILD PROTECTION CLUBS

We laid the foundation of this program with the idea of constituting Child Protection Clubs in each institute related to National Service Scheme. This was introduced to sustain the program and to conduct awareness activities actively. In each CP Club, there can be 10 or more members and they spread the words of awareness in two ways : **Campus to Community and Institutional Level Activities.**

At present nearly **350 CP Clubs** with approx. **10,000 young members** are actively working in the state and they received small supporting amount of Rupees 1000 for yearly activities.

TRAINING, MEETINGS & ORIENTATION

1. Child Protection State Core Group Meeting:

In Madhya Pradesh, a state level core group has been formed in this ongoing adolescent and youth participation program on the subject of child protection. This group has been formed with the objective of planning the activities to be held throughout the year, meeting the challenges and monitoring the programme. State officer of National Service Scheme, program coordinators of seven universities with open unit program officers, representatives of UNICEF and Aawaj are part of this group.

In the one-day meeting of the core group held this year, the interventions done last year were reviewed and the proposed activities for this year were discussed and decisions were taken. The challenges faced during the program were also discussed in the meeting and suggestions were found after discussions. During this meeting also everyone agreed for the upcoming activities.

2. Orientation of Program Officers:

Under this activity, online meetings were organized with all the program officers of each university twice a year; One meeting was held at the beginning of the year and one at the end of the year. The purpose of the initial meeting was to orient the Program Officers on the child protection issue and process of the program so that a sound plan could be drawn up.

The works were reviewed in the second meeting. In this way a total of **14 meetings** were organized in which **680 program officers participated**.

3. District Level Training of Young People:

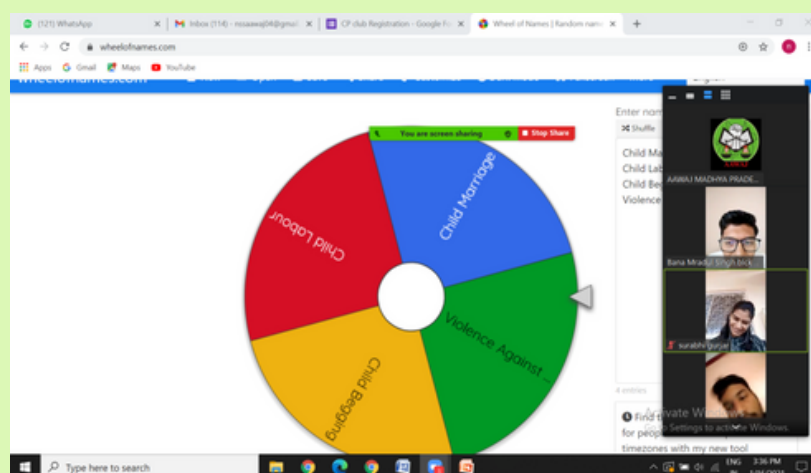
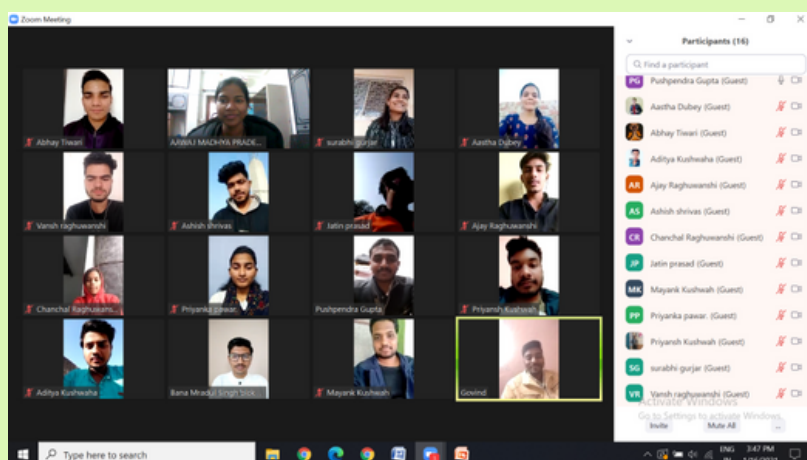
From the very beginning, we paid special attention to youth training; In this training, they trained about child protection and the important aspects related to it, are introduced to the status of child protection in Madhya Pradesh and its districts, are informed about the existing laws and structures, and to deal with related related cases followed by reporting. The main theme of this training is to prevent different types of violence against children and create a safe environment for them. This year the training was conducted in 7 districts under Awadhesh Pratap Singh University – Anuppur, Umaria, Shahdol, Rewa, Satna, Sidhi and Singrauli. Under this one-day district level training, **359 youth companions** were benefited, in which **185 were men and 174 were women**.



4. Refresher and Booster Meetings:

In the end and beginning of year we conducted refresher and booster meetings for the young people associated with the program. These meetings help the youth to recall what they've learnt during the trainings and also other members of their team able to join the conversation.

We also assign monthly tasks by using the game “Spin the Wheel” and take follow up of it through these meetings. In this year we have organized nearly **50 refresher & boosters** and reached upto **7000 young volunteers** associated with Child Protection Clubs.



AAGAZ INTERNSHIP

24 percent of India's population is youth. That's why by making the youth aware about the issue of child protection, not only the large population become aware, but a large geographical area can also be reached through them.

Through the last year's internship, the young people not only made the general public aware of child protection issues with their innovations, but also made meaningful interventions themselves. With these meaningful interventions, an atmosphere was created in Madhya Pradesh towards child protection. It motivated another level of internship program with same idea and more creativity.

This time we had Aagaz Alumni also to be addressed and utilized as the cadre of young people already having the experience and capacities to work for children's protection. That's why we have designed the internship model this year in two different ways. Aagaz Alumni Internship 2022 for old fellows and Aagaz 2.0 Internship for new young candidates.



AAGAZ ALUMNI

After the successful implementation of Aagaz 1.0, a new chapter of it was launched by Aawaj, UNICEF and NSS to work with young people in a new way. In this, **50 former interns** were selected by the selection committee from all the 7 universities associated with the National Service Scheme (NSS).

In this process, the intern had to collaborate with the youth to take child protection forward through their own groups, which we can also call mandals or community youth groups.





That is, till now the activity which was being done by a young intern alone, now the same type of activity was done by the groups formed by them. Working in the community through a group was an idea of this Alumni Internship. Due to this, a large number of young people **(50 Groups having 750 young community leaders)** were involved in this process and they were able to build their understanding on child protection, as well as they were able to cover a large geographical area.

50 Interns from Alumni **directly reached up to 75,000** people through their community awareness and institutional level activities. They **indirectly reached more than 3, 74,000** Number of people through social media and other form of interventions.

AAGAZ 2.0

The Aagaz 2.0 was based on the previous internship model and same selection process was applied to find out the cream candidates for the internship across state. For this, 1119 NSS volunteers applied from all the 52 districts and **75 interns representing 33 districts of Madhya Pradesh** were selected on the basis of their proposal and implementation idea.



The topics to work on were chosen by the interns themselves looking at the problems in their locality or community. Innovations and creativity was the mainstay of Aagaz 2.0 and also vital parameter of selection as we believe the creative ways of awareness works better in the communities to communicate any social issue rather hackneyed tools that have been used from so long.



75 Interns from Aagaz 2.0 **directly reached up to 80,000 people** through their community awareness programs and institutional level activities. They indirectly reached more than **4, 00,000** Number of people through social media and other form of interventions.

CHILD RIGHTS WEEK

We run a state level campaign called **"MEHFOOZ"** every year during Child Rights Week. It has been almost three years since this campaign started. The entire campaign is issue based and a specific activity related to it for each day of all the seven days of the week is designed to spread awareness. It was conducted through both online and offline mode wherein interns of both the programs and CP Club members ensured participation with their innovations. The interns reached out to **24, 18,000 people through online platforms** and shared digital posters across social media and Twitterthon.



The offline activities included seminars, workshops, signature campaigns, street plays and flash mobs, playing traditional games with children, police-public dialogues and rallies and directly reached out to **66,364** people. CP Club members were able to reach out to **18,200 people** directly through various activities. Thus the direct reach of the campaign was **84,564**. Every year our reach is growing amazingly and it shows that campaigns like these are very powerful and making more impact when accelerated by Young People.

QUIZ COMPETITION

Under the joint auspices of Aawaj, UNICEF and NSS, a State Level Child Protection Quiz Competition was organized on child protection and related topics. Only currently enrolled NSS volunteers could be able to participate in it. The result of this activity was that the intellect of the youth on the subject matter developed, they utilized the resource material provided them. The competition was organized at the state level in the following stages - Unit, District, University and state.



After that 156 (3 from each district) came to the university level. Then 14 (2 from each university) came to the state level. Finally, three teams got first, second and third position. Jiwaji University, Gwalior got first place (Rs 10000 and certificate) in the competition. The team of MCBU, Chhatarpur (Rs 7000 and certificate) with second position and DAVV, Indore (Rs 5000 and certificate) stood at the third position.



GENDER EQUITY INITIATIVE



In our daily life, through various relationships, we come across gender norms which somewhere or the other promote violence and inequality. To understand this topic in depth and soundly, to establish dialogue with the youth and to build a perspective, we along with 32 NSS volunteers from Barkatullah University, Bhopal and Rani Durgavati University, Jabalpur Region Conducted a three-day pilot training.

The training attempted to discuss the issue of gender violence with youth using interactive tools and activities. This three-day workshop developed a deep understanding of youth on topics and aspects related to everyday life of youth like social media, relationships, gender, social gender discrimination, consent, friendship, work etc.



PARWAH – Multilayered Efforts to Combat Child Trafficking



According to a report by the National Human Rights Commission of India, 40,000 children are abducted every year, leaving 11,000 untraceable. Trafficking of children is increasing day by day in Madhya Pradesh. Minor girls are trafficked for marriage, sex-work, criminal activity, adoption, etc., while boys are mainly trafficked for labor and are exploited as child beggary. Sometimes, trafficked children are also recruited into armed groups or for criminal activities.

“Parwah” project is being operated by Aawaj Madhya Pradesh from year 2021 for intervention in child trafficking in Madhya Pradesh. Aawaj is working in **5 districts of Madhya Pradesh** in collaboration with PHF. In which ground level work is done in **Balaghat, Betul, Sagar and Chhatarpur districts** and state level work is being done in Bhopal district. Baihar block of Balaghat, Bhainsdehi block of Betul, Buxwaha block of Chhatarpur and Bina block of Sagar have been identified for community engagements.

The interventions are being done at the 10 very sensitive panchayats of all these blocks. In this “Parwah” project, stakeholders related to Child Protection & Child Trafficking like: M.P. Government, Police Department, Women and Child Development Department, Juvenile Justice Board, DLSA, Labor Department, District Panchayat, Janpad Panchayat, Childline, college level volunteers, media persons and other stakeholders are working together.



Staff Training

A five-day long intensive training was organized for the staff of Aawaj at Madhai. This training was for the capacity building of staff on the issues of Child Protection and trafficking, management of the project and coordination during field interventions. In this training district coordinators, block coordinators, field level coordinators all participated including the coordination team of state.



Shaurya Dal

Under this project, Shaurya Dal is the key group through which all the mobilization interventions in the communities are being conducted. In this year, total **110 trainings** are organized in four districts i.e. Balaghat, Betul, Chhatarpur and Sagar. With these trainings total **1172 Shaurya Dal** members are capacitated.

Child Protection Committees (CPCs)

At all the districts there are mandate to constitute Child Protection Committees at Block, Panchayat and village level for facilitating the CP activities and interventions in the communities. In our field area, we conducted trainings for the capacity building of these committees so that a protective environment can be created for the children. More than **900 CPC members** are trained under this project.

Stakeholders (Police, GRP, RPF)

In this year we focused on the dialogues with stakeholders from various departments to increase the sensitivity towards children's issues among them. Keeping in view the roles of different stakeholders separate trainings and workshops were organized for Police Officers, GRP & RPF, officers from WCD, DALSA etc and through nearly **12 trainings** we capacitated **867 stakeholders**.



Orientation in NSS Camps

During this there was participation in **22 NSS unit camps**. These events were organized by both district and block level colleges. Along with orientation in these camps and units, efforts were made to create awareness through snake-ladder game. Efforts were made to reach out to school units as well as college units of NSS. We have able to reach **approx 1800 volunteer** through this activity.

ACCELERATION OF PCPC

This year the Panchayat elections were held, which was a great opportunity for the Aawaj team to coordinate with the Child Protection Committees in our area. After supporting in the formation of all the panchayat level child protection committees (PCPC), efforts have been made to make them active.

During our previous process, these committees were formed in most of the districts. It has been also approved by the Gram Sabhas held in August. In those panchayats where the approval could not be done, the approval was done in the Gram Sabha held on 2nd October. This is because this process can become a part of the Gram Sabha process like other committees. Because this committee remains in the papers of Anganwadi workers, but the members of the committee are not even aware of it if it is not become the part of Gram Sabhas. Now the number of members of the committees formed in all the **4 districts is about 1063.**

EXPOSURE VISIT

This year we went to Manav Sansadhan Evam Mahila Vikas Sangathan of Banaras for the exposure visit. This organization is working in different districts around Banaras, mainly on the subject of bonded labour and human trafficking. Under this, the formation of community vigilance committees in rural areas was started by the organization, through which Azad Shakti Group was formed. This serves to introduce various issues in the community.

On the first day Banaras and Bhadohi districts were visited, where a meeting was held with the team of the organization, followed by a meeting with the Azad Shakti group in the villages of Bhadohi. The next day a discussion was held with the CVC in the village of Jaunpur district. Here the assistance amount and employment-oriented programs received by the organization for the members of CVC were discussed. After that, we visited to one of the village of bhadohi District. On the third day, we have visited to Mirzapur district where team met with Chargoda, Gulouri VCPC.

This visit was a great learning experience for the team; we got a chance to understand the working of the organization practically as well as institutionally. Efforts will be made to incorporate these experiences in our learning in the coming times.

CHILD RIGHTS WEEK

The organization celebrates every year from **14 to 21 November as Child Protection Week**. This year also this activity was completed. During this various activities were organized in all the districts.

In which rallies, children's gatherings in schools, special community meetings, Mehendi and Rangoli competitions were also included. Overall 43 activities were done, reached around **16,000 people**.



SAKHI UTSAV

'Sakhi Utsav' program was organized to increase the activism of Shaurya Dals. In reviewing our work, we found that we need to make special efforts to raise awareness with adolescent girls and women in the affected community. It was from here that the idea of Sakhi Utsav originated. Sakhi Utsav was conceptualized keeping Shaurya Dal in mind, to ensure the participation of Shaurya Dal members in rural and urban areas and to increase the confidence and activation of Shaurya Dal members. This program was organized in view of International Women's Day.

This week-long program was conducted in 40 panchayats, in which more than **3500 community people** participated and more than **1500 Shaurya Dal members** participated in the competition. Out of these **430 participants were marked as winners and honored**. The process of this whole program was long, which included correspondence on the state and district, meeting with Shaurya Dals, then celebrating and concluding this festival.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS

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One of the main objectives of this entire project is to reach out to the communities at risk and spread awareness and make them a part of the process. This was also the reason why we made efforts from the very beginning to create a strong base at the block and panchayat level. Following are the major interventions to mobilize and engage community people with our awareness initiatives.

Street Play Performances

We used street plays as a tool to spread our messages among the people. A group of young people performed street plays in all the four districts and ran it as a campaign or nukkad marathon. About **124 street plays** were performed in four districts. A total of **18313 people** were reached out through these street plays. These street plays were performed in all the panchayats, at square-intersections, nooks and crannies, haat-bazaars, religious program, fairs as well as in cities.

Before performing these street plays, a new script was worked out by the expert. This script was based on our previous year experiences. After this correspondence was done in many districts through SDM, District CEO etc. A team of NSS volunteers was formed, which was given training. In many districts, it was started by the local officials, so that the volunteers could get motivation.



Wall Writing

Like last time, wall writing program was done this year also. This wall writing is done in two ways. First, through paint on the wall by professional painter and second, with panchayat level stakeholders with other soil and color. During this, awareness message was written on 55 walls in 40 panchayats through professional painters. Awareness slogans were written on **about 560 walls**. This slogan was done through Anganwadi workers, Shaurya Dal, PCPC members. We have reached More than **8500 people** through this activity.

Pamphlet Preparation & Distribution

At this time two types of pamphlets have been launched, the first one is a pamphlet based on human trafficking. The second leaflet is for passengers arriving at the station, guiding them on the steps they can take if they find a CNCP child during their journey.

More than **10,000 pamphlets** were distributed on various occasions, the results of which are also felt by us through the works coming to us from time to time.

Village Level Register

Till last year, panchayat level registers were kept in the selected panchayats. But the people who migrated were not entering their details; due to this the actual numbers of migration in each panchayat are not registered. Last time, the idea was shared to train the Kotwars in collaboration with the local authority, so this experiment was done in one district this time, which yielded positive results. There is a mobilization in the districts of the fifth schedule of the constitution, whose training was also done.

In the next plans, we have talked about the training of these Kotwars, mobilizers in all working districts, which will help us to prove this experiment meaningful. Along with this, efforts are being made to make all Panchayat level stakeholders aware of the work of this register, so that the community and the existing system can take autonomy of this register in future.

Baal Sabha

We also organized Bal Sabha in the schools of Panchayats where the chances of child trafficking are high. Children from communities that are marginalized study more in these schools. In every district we have organized about 30 i.e. **120 Bal Sabhas** including all the four districts in which about **6000 children** participated.



RESEARCH & STUDIES

1. "Stakeholder analysis- A study to create a baseline analysis of the importance & impact of the stakeholders related to child protection & child trafficking in AAWAJ's project area."

We reworked on the study that has been conducted in the previous year. With our survey experiences we found the need to ameliorate sample collecting and do necessary inputs to this study. The study will be helpful in forming new strategies and then intervening to work on issues of trafficking in the particular areas.

2. "Trends of Trafficking in Project Area"

As shared in the previous report that the collection of data was done. But after that, due to non-availability of quality data, the data was re-compiled. Data analysis was completed after quality data was obtained.

After analyzing the data, the work on the report is in progress. The information that has been received from the data so far, the impact on the hypotheses of the research is being seen.

3. RESCUE

When we look at cases related to the protection of children in the field, it is not only cases related to child trafficking, but other protection related issues also come to the fore. Our experiences are also such that at present, the understanding of the police is not yet to take the cases of trafficking directly.

That's why we have also made a strategy in this way so that discussions can be started on serious and sensitive matters like trafficking in the background of other issues of child protection and they can be taken into direct cognizance.

We have **rescued/intervened in 34 cases which included Missing Children, child trafficking, Abandoned, Child marriages, child violence etc. some the cases are below:**

DISTRICT	NO. OF CASES	TYPE OF CASES
SAGAR	21	Child Begging, Run Away
BALAGHAT	09	Bonded labor, Child abuse, Child trafficking
BETUL	02	Child marriage, Child trafficking
CHHATARPUR	02	Missing Children
TOTAL	34	

We are still facing the challenge of non-registration of cases by the police. However, coordination with the police at the state level is constantly being made to face this challenge.

SAJAG – A Sustainable Effort to Reduce Child Trafficking in Source & Transit areas of Madhya Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh being the heartland of India, trafficking of children and women is very sensitive. We all know that source area, destination area and transit area are all very important in trafficking. Along with the socio-cultural conditions of Madhya Pradesh, **8 railway junctions and 6 national highways** also play a very important role in the disappearance of children from Madhya Pradesh.

These rail junctions and national highways helps in the transit of trafficked children. Along with this, one more thing becomes important when children from nearby villages/urban settlements come to the railway station in search of work and in such a situation they become easy victims of trafficking.

To work on the conditions of child trafficking in Madhya Pradesh, **the "Sajag" project is being operated from the month of May (2022)**. In this project, work is being done simultaneously in three **districts of Madhya Pradesh Mandla (source) and Bina and Sagar Junction (transit)**.

Under this project, we are covering **8 panchayats of Bichhiya Block of Mandla, Katni rail junction, 05 panchayats and 02 urban settlements of Badwara block**. Similarly, work is also going on in **two urban settlements of Bina Junction and 10 panchayats**.



TRAINING & ORIENTATION

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Along with GRP, RPF and police, various types of stakeholders have been identified while working at the railway station and in the panchayats. In which the most prominent at the railway station are porter, vendor, auto driver, and sweeper, TTE / TC. Similarly, meeting with Secretary/ Sarpanch/Panch and Kotwars at Panchayat level were also organized. Anganwadi workers/ Asha Usha workers etc. from both rural and urban areas are covered during the trainings and workshops. Through these trainings with the stakeholders, we capacitated around **177 people** under this project.



In the field, training was also provided to Shaurya Dals for effective community reach. For its members around **78 workshops** organized in which **731 people participated**.



GRAM SABHA

Gram Sabha is an important intervention under the Madhya Pradesh Panchayati Raj Gram Swaraj Act. Usually in gram sabha there is no discussion on child rights or protection but Aawaj considering gram sabha as an opportunity discussed the issues of children in every gram sabha of the working area on child trafficking and got a resolution passed regarding child trafficking.

For this, a letter was written by the District Executive Officer and it was included in the agenda of the Gram Sabha itself. After that human trafficking was discussed in every gram sabha and panchayat level child protection committee was also formed. So far, we have ensured participation in 49 gram sabha of Mandla, 30 in Katni and 40 in Sagar i.e. **total 109 major gram sabhas**.

RESTRUCTURING BAAL CABINETS

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Child cabinet has been formed in the schools of Madhya Pradesh. In this child cabinet, ministers are appointed according to child rights, who are school children and they all do this experiment together. Aawaj made an innovation in this whole experiment in Mandla that why not create a new ministerial post here and this post is that of child protection minister. Through this activity it has become easy to go to schools and do activities with children. Through this intervention, till now we interacted with nearly **60 children cabinet ministers**.

BCPC STRENGTHENING

Under this project, we have put Block Level Child Protection Committees (BCPC) at the center. Where these committees are not constituted, efforts were made to form them and where they are constituted, work has been done to make them strengthened. Right now we're directly working with the **90 BCPC members**.

WALL PAINTING

Wall writing was done in all the villages to mobilize the communities and increase the visibility of the topic like child trafficking. A total of **534 paintings/slogans** were made on the walls of all the three districts, which reached out to **about 11,750 people**.

STREET PLAY CAMPAIGN



Street plays were performed by trained youth groups. With this, subject related messages conveyed to more people simultaneously. During this, a total of **75 street plays** including all the three districts were performed, which directly reached upto **2500 people**.



CHETNA ABHIYAN

In coordination with the Madhya Pradesh Police Department, an awareness campaign was launched in Madhya Pradesh to create awareness among the general public against human trafficking. About 25 rallies were organized during this period. Apart from this, interactions were held with children in about 10 schools. Apart from this, dialogue was also held with the Shaurya Dal at the village level. Around **3000 people** were reached in the whole process.



COVID VACCINATION CAMPAIGN -Reaching TO The Unreached

Many communities faced challenges with vaccination myths. Campaigns were being run vigorously by the administration for vaccination of all. But still access to many sections has not been ensured. After second wave, children were most at risk from COVID. Vaccination had also started for adolescents between the ages of 15 to 18, but the vaccines were still not reaching where there are children other than schools. Apart from this, the most **marginalized communities like Banjara, Sapera & Loh Peeta Nomads, Gond, Baiga & Korku tribes and Bansod, Ahirwar & Chamar communities** were also deprived of the vaccines. Many times the ongoing vaccine drives were not reaching them, sometimes it is troublesome to reach them due to different conditions of these communities; and there were many rumors about COVID & vaccines due to which communities were in fear and hesitancy of vaccines.

Bhopal, Sagar and Chhatarpur were our targeted districts in Madhya Pradesh. We are having great presence in these areas and having an understanding over the marginalized communities in these particular areas. We share a good bonding with the administrations of above mentioned districts. We have selected both urban and rural areas of all the districts for our campaign and programs. We have selected urban areas and adjoining rural settlements, blocks or villages to spread awareness about COVID compliant behavior and have specific target groups falling under these five districts to bring people forward for vaccination.

GEOGRAPHY

We had selected **3 blocks** from all the targeted three districts. Berasiya Block of Bhopal, Bina Block of Sagar and Buxwaha Block of Chhatarpur were the areas where we ran the vaccine awareness campaign. We worked in **131 Panchayats and 228 villages** of these three districts.

MEASURING VACCINE INEQUALITIES

Before starting a campaign it was very important to know where it is primary to put our energy. And for this, efforts at different levels were needed.

Liaising with Administration:

At the district level, we met the stakeholders, bring them together and after discussing our plans with them, we prepared for the campaign in full force. Coordinating with the administration made it easier for us to identify multiple hidden and marginalized groups. In this process, we engaged with **310 community health workers** and **24 senior officers from medical, WCD and labor department**.

Collecting the Data :

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We collected data from three districts of Madhya Pradesh covering rural areas including **228 villages**. We appointed the surveyors from the community and collected the data and mapped the particular communities. Data was also collected from the peethas of Bhopal. And this helped us in reaching to the unreached people of the communities. We **surveyed 19800 individuals** from all three districts, among them **16207 were found unvaccinated and 4158 adolescents were either not vaccinated or partially vaccinated.**



AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Campaign is generally a sustained effort to educate individuals and boost public awareness about any cause or issue. So, we always use this tool to raise our issue and achieve positive impacts. It helps us in generating new contacts and educates those potential supporters about our cause. We conducted activities at different levels in all the districts by using various means and reached up to **56,260 people** in total.

Multimedia Van:

We ran multimedia vans in all the districts. These vans were prepared in terms of awareness and messages will be pasted on their walls regarding covid appropriate behavior. It also had a system of audio so that messages can be conveyed to the people through local languages and music.



This vehicle moved into the urban, rural to all the remote areas of five districts. 'Peethas' (A place near squares where migrant laborers gather to wait for work) and 'Haat Bazaars' were also covered through the multimedia vans. Two Multimedia Can campaigns were conducted across **196 villages over 120 days** reaching **75000 people** approx. During this campaign, nearly **72 street plays performed and reached up to 5660 people.**

Mythological and Cartoon Characters:

Through this idea, we were able to attract people to listen and understand our messages. In this, we had put volunteers in the costumes of Yamraj & Chitrageet or cartoon characters like Motu & Patlu etc and they will give advice to the people to follow covid appropriate behavior and come forward for jabs. **52 awareness campaigns** were organized with these characters focusing on children across **52 villages reaching 3600 individuals approx.**



Jingles in local languages:

Dialogue with anyone is meaningful only when it is done in their local and understandable language. The same applies to conveying awareness messages. Keeping this in mind, we prepared some interesting jingles which people like to listen to and they can also be inspired to follow them. It was our endeavor to prepare audio notes and jingles keeping the culture of every district and community in mind so that no section is left behind. Recording the songs in regional dialect of respective districts like **Bundelkhandi songs** for district Sagar and Chhatarpur (Bundelkhandi is regional language of Sagar & Chhatarpur region). **10 awareness campaigns** were majorly organized focused on regional cultural practices with these jingles in local languages.

Regional and Cultural Practices:

At the beginning of every vaccination camp, we tried to create an atmosphere using regional cultural practices and performances of that area. We also designed these practices from the point of view of public awareness. After understanding these areas and the cultures, we used the ideas of 'Dul-Dul Ghodi Dance' and the other is 'Kathi' and other folk dances. These dance performances reached upto **3800 people**. It also reached nearly **1000 migrant workers** separately.

Duldul Ghodi Dance:

The tradition of Duldul Ghodi dance is going on in Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh. Despite the race of modernity and materiality, some artists are keeping this tradition alive and people love this lot. In this dance, a very attractive horse costume is worn by a person and dance is performed to communicate with people effectively.



Kathi & other Folk Dances:

The practice and craze of folk dances is very high in rural areas. Kathi or other forms of folk dance often prove to be a better means of communication with people especially in tribal regions. In these performances, use of wooden sticks and other props, beautiful dresses and effective make-ups are used.

VACCINATION DRIVE

The basic objective of our entire campaign was to reach the underprivileged sections that are missing out from every existing vaccination drive. That is why, in coordination with the district administration, we conducted such drives whose target group were especially the marginalized communities selected and identified by us in the very first phase of campaign.



Conducting Vaccination Camps -

We organized vaccination camps at various places in collaboration with the district administration. In these camps, people were explained by volunteers that this is the only way to prevent the spread of infections. If even this process does not work, then we take the support of those they trust i.e. their local leaders and the community awareness ambassadors.

We targeted 5000 people to get their vaccination done and organized **32 camps** for this. Through these camps we managed to provide vaccination to **8702 people** among whom there were **1148 first dose, 4419 second dose and 2795 booster doses**.

ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCREDITATION

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MISS AAKANKSHA PATLE -

A young team member of Aawaj got an opportunity to present our Youth & Adolescent Participation Intervention at state level platform of Youth Maha Panchayat in front of Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh.



MR. SHIVAM TIWARI -

MR. SHIVAM TIWARI, Chhatarpur District Coordinator of Aawaj got awarded by Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh for one of the organization's case study on Child Trafficking.



MISS SOYAL PURI GOSWAMI -

An intern from one of our program Aagaz Youth Internship, received NSS Swami Vivekanand Youth Award, M.P. for her intervention in the field of social work, child protection & youth participation.



OUR SUPPORTERS

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UNICEF



PHF



APF



DASRA



HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,
MADHYA PRADESH



HEALTH DEPARTMENT
MADHYA PRADESH



WOMEN AND CHILD
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



MADHYA PRADESH POLICE



CHHATARPUR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

SAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

