

Ek Kadam Aur

Aiding children with visual impairments

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Ek Kadam Aur (One Step Forward) Foundation

- Vision: A world where every child enjoys complete, uninterrupted rights and opportunities
- Mission: Transform underprivileged children through education, tech, and healthcare
- Values: Growth, respect, inclusion, teamwork



Arunodaya Program

- India is home to over 8.9 million visually impaired individuals, 1.6-2.7 million are children
- Program dedicated to providing training and educational assistance to these children
- Build self-assurance in the children helping them believe in their abilities
- Tailored training and educational assistance
- Nurture academic potential and socialization skills to empower visually impaired children



Phase 1: One-on-One Training

- Each child will be trained by a mentor one-on-one
- Taught braille, orientation, mobility, sensory skills, foundational literacy, and numeracy skills
- 6 days a week, 2 hours a day
- Targets building confidence in moving around in non-home surroundings and building interest in education



Phase 2: Integration and Assimilation

- Focus on assimilating children into mainstream schools
- Creating an environment similar to a school environment
- Adopt inclusive learning practices and utilizing assistive technologies
- Conduct empathy exercises with peer groups and foster a positive classroom experience
- By the end, aim to integrate the visually impaired children into mainstream schools



Program Status: Currently Running in Seven States in India

LOCATION	Uttar Pradesh	Chhattisgarh	West Bengal	Madhya Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	Rajasthan	Maharashtra
TIMELINE	March 2022	July 2022	November 2022	March, 2023	December 2023	March 2024	March 2024
CHILDREN	63	17	73	43	5	36	12
MENTORS / SPECIAL MENTORS	27	8	20	16	3	8	8
SPECIAL EDUCATORS	9	1	8	4	0	4	2

Total Children 249 | Total Mentors and Special Mentors: 82 | Total Special Educators: 35

Survey Findings

- Students given surveys at start (baseline) of Arunodaya Program and after 6 months (endline)
- The average student went from a baseline score of 9.3/21 (SD: 4.4) to an endline score of 15.8/21 (SD: 2.8)
- This 41.3% increase in score came across the areas of confidence, independence, education, socialization, and technology
- Across all four states, the average student grew in confidence, independence, education, socialization, and technology



Chhattisgarh

	Overall	Confidence	Independence	Education	Socialization	Technology
Baseline	0.57	0.77	0.46	0.47	0.9	0.27
Midline	0.75	0.95	0.66	0.88	0.96	0.29
Endline	0.73	0.9	0.9	0.78	0.81	0.24

West_Bengal

	Overall	Confidence	Independence	Education	Socialization	Technology
Baseline	0.43	0.8	0.23	0.42	0.61	0.06
Midline	0.54	0.9	0.43	0.66	0.68	0.03
Endline	0.68	1.0	0.64	0.88	0.91	0.0

Madhya_Pradesh

	Overall	Confidence	Independence	Education	Socialization	Technology
Baseline	0.59	0.81	0.74	0.43	0.91	0.13
Midline	0.65	0.86	0.85	0.6	0.86	0.21
Endline	0.72	0.89	0.75	0.86	0.89	0.19

Uttar_Pradesh

	Overall	Confidence	Independence	Education	Socialization	Technology
Baseline	0.31	0.43	0.31	0.25	0.53	0.02
Midline	0.64	0.92	0.63	0.69	0.84	0.12
Endline	0.69	0.9	0.69	0.86	0.85	0.13

Test Findings

- During the Arunodaya program, the average student increased their test score by over 102%, from an average score of 3.7/10 to 7.48/10
- In the four states covered by the Arunodaya program, the average student's test scores increased significantly
- English: 3.67/10 to 8.27/10, a 125% increase
- Hindi: 3.76/10 to 6.96/10, an 84% increase
- Math: 3.66/10 to 7.6/10, an 108% increase



Chhattisgarh

	Overall	English	Hindi	Math
Baseline	4.19	4.07	4.07	4.42
Midline	6.79	7.31	6.59	6.47
Endline	7.05	7.86	6.48	6.91

West_Bengal

	Overall	English	Hindi	Math
Baseline	4.34	4.82	4.24	3.95
Midline	5.83	6.4	5.42	5.69
Endline	7.7	8.34	7.05	7.71

Madhya_Pradesh

	Overall	English	Hindi	Math
Baseline	4.0	3.77	4.44	3.79
Midline	5.7	5.76	5.69	5.65
Endline	7.77	8.29	7.14	7.87

Uttar_Pradesh

	Overall	English	Hindi	Math
Baseline	2.26	2.01	2.29	2.47
Midline	6.46	6.51	5.91	6.98
Endline	7.41	7.55	6.95	7.73

Conclusion

- Statistically meaningful progression from baseline to endline in Math, Hindi, and English, along with the confidence, social, and lifestyle improvements
- Resilience of progress for Arunodaya students across states, test types, and categories
- Implications: Arunodaya program provides a blueprint for widespread adoption in India and expansion for Ek Kadam Aur
- Conclusion: Students receive educational, social, and lifestyle improvements that significantly improve quality of life

