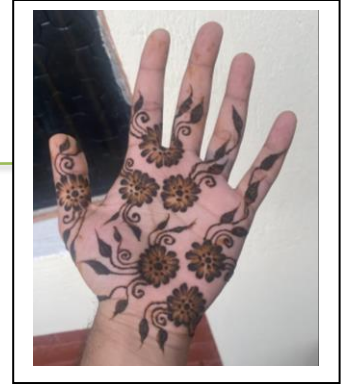




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Dear Friends and Supporters,
Thank you for your support to Vision Builders during this past year 2021-2022!

We would like to share with you updates for the two projects that Vision Builders has been supporting with your help:

- ❖ **KUTUMB**, a Children Rehabilitation Center for abandoned kids and a Community outreach Program based in Varanasi, India
- ❖ **NIPUN**, an NGO supporting the children and community of slum dwellers in New Delhi, India

With the easing of COVID-related concerns and travel restrictions, several of VisionBuilders' board members and supporters visited Kutumb and NIPUN this year and experienced first-hand the work being done for children, women and for the neighboring communities.

Here are the highlights of the progress made this year.

KUTUMB:

Kutumb Children Home: In "Kutumb" which means "family", 48 kids live in the Residential Child Care Centre of Kutumb situated in Babatpur, near Varanasi Airport. Most of these have been residing here for several years. Recently several kids graduated from 12 grade, some have found jobs to sustain themselves and others are pursuing college education.

At Kutumb, children are engaged in supplemental education classes, workshops, music lessons, dance training (Kathak and Hip-Hop), meditation & yoga sessions, playing games or simply playing with each other. Kids participated in various music and dance shows, and in local sports.



Competitive football (soccer) team



Theatrical dance



Kathak Performance



Kutumb Scholarship Program: This was started in 2020 to support education of promising students specially among the underprivileged children who were either orphaned or single-parents' children in the surrounding villages near Kutumb. As of October 2022, 163 children have been selected in Grade 6, 9 and 11 and are provided free access to school education, educational material, uniforms, and support for after school tuition.

A “graduation” ceremony was conducted in August 2022, to felicitate students graduating from secondary level (Grade 10 equivalent) and post-secondary level (Grade 12 equivalent) of education. The President of Vision Builders, Ms. Smita Abbi, was fortunate to be present to award the certificates to the graduates.



Students from Kutumb’s Scholarship program graduating Grade 10 and Grade 12 at graduation ceremony with Ms. Puja (left, Kutumb co-founder, Masters in Social Worker), Dr. Ashish (center, Kutumb co-founder, medical doctor) and Smita Abbi (center, VisionBuilders’ President), who was visiting Kutumb in Aug. 2022.

Kutumb health camps: Kutumb is also addressing some gaps in primary healthcare system in the neighboring communities by operating Community Health Centers that provided free health checkups, medicines, education and awareness. In this past year ending October 2022:

- 10 Mega Health Camps were organized in which:
 - Free medicines were distributed to about 3870 patients
 - Free eye-glasses were provided to 173 patients after eye check-ups
 - Support was provided to 47 patients for eye-surgery
 - 8 patients were helped for urgent blood transfusion
 - 24 patients were helped for admission in intensive care units and treatment
- 139 Diabetic patients and 60 Anemia patients are getting regular medicines, free check-up and counseling from Kutumb



Maternal Health Patients gathered outside a Camp



Consultation for a young mother at Maternity Camp

Kutumb Maternal Nutrition Program: Kutumb identifies malnourished pregnant women in the surrounding community and provides them nutritional, medical assistance, and psychological support during the entire pregnancy and beyond. The program has been a success in ensuring normal deliveries with healthy babies and mothers. In 2021 Kutumb helped approximately 200 expectant mothers. In 2022, the program has continued to be a success. There is an additional new capability with the addition of a mobile clinic to facilitate these health camps by bringing healthcare closer to pregnant women in remote villages.



Instructional session in progress as part of the Kutumb effort to help would-be-mothers during

Clinic on Wheels (plan & request for targeted funding):

Kutumb has launched a new initiative in 2022, called Clinic on Wheels. A van (equivalent to a Class C ambulance) has been procured and outfitted to perform as a mobile clinic. This van will visit surrounding villages a few times per month and help bring medical expertise closer to these rural communities. A team of four medical personnel have been recruited to take turns with different camps – e.g., the gynecologist will visit for a maternal health camp.

Awareness for the clinic is being organized with first-line health workers in each community who spread information and communicate within the community. These personnel will be key, especially with communications regarding nutrition and preventive care.



Additional funding is being sought for operational expenses – the cost of running Clinic on Wheels is estimated at \$9400/year for three years. Of this, \$5000 has been secured from a generous donor to get the program started. Please reach out to Smita Abbi at smita.abbi@gmail.com for details if you would like to contribute towards this endeavor. Vision Builders is considering partial support for this initiative and is encouraging donor commitments for the next three years to enable the full scope of this program. Please note that all of the donated funds will be transferred to the cause, with no administrative overhead at Vision Builders, as all management and the board oversight is provided by volunteers.

Kutumb Women Empowerment Program: Kutumb has been working towards training of women in sewing, jewelry making, beauty parlor classes and literacy classes. As part of Project “Sanskriti” women create hand-made products that are sold in exhibitions to generate revenue to help their livelihood.

In 2021, Kutumb initiated a focused effort on **empowering widows** in the surrounding community, in order to help counter the unfair ostracism they experience in society and make them independent. A sewing center was set up in Babatpur village, with 30 such women enrolled, with a focus to help them be independent and self-sufficient. As the center has progressed, it is now itself managed by one of the widowed women.

In this past year, over 500 courses have been conducted as part of this program including Sewing class, Beautician courses, Handicraft & Souvenir making, Incense making and Literacy class.

NIPUN Projects with Vision Builders' funding:

Nutritional Program: Vision Builders has been sponsoring a nutrition program at NIPUN where supplementary nutrition (Mid-Day Meal) is provided regularly to about 350 underprivileged children of Kapashera (110 children) & Meera Bagh (240 children) areas. The program aims to improve nutrition, and also seeks to help at-risk children through the provisioning of need-based support and referral services.



NIPUN children gathered for a meal after morning

After-school care: Vision Builders also funds teacher salaries for the NIPUN's Non-Formal and Remedial Education Centre at the Kapashera location.

UMANG – Vocational Training Center: With support from Vision Builders, NIPUN has implemented a project “UMANG” at Nihal Vihar in West Delhi. It aims to empower underprivileged youth, especially adolescent girls, and women, with skills-development training programs for basic Computer training & Spoken English, Self Employed Tailoring and Beauty & Wellness. Nihal Vihar is mainly inhabited by migrants from other states, who flock to Delhi in search of work. The core of the project is empowerment of underprivileged youth such that they can secure a better livelihood.

During Nov. 2021- Oct. 2022, a total of 282 students were enrolled in Project Umang – 268 have successfully completed the trainings, and 182 students have either secured employment or are self-employed.

Placement of youth who received training at UMANG Vocational Training center last year

S.No.	Courses Conducted by UMANG Project at NIPUN (funded by VisionBuilders)	No. of placements		Total
		Jobs in: Offices/BPs/Spas/Parlours/Export Garments	Self Employed	
1	Computer	45	05	50
2	Beauty & Wellness	67	11	78
3	Self Employed Tailor	39	15	54
Total		151	31	182



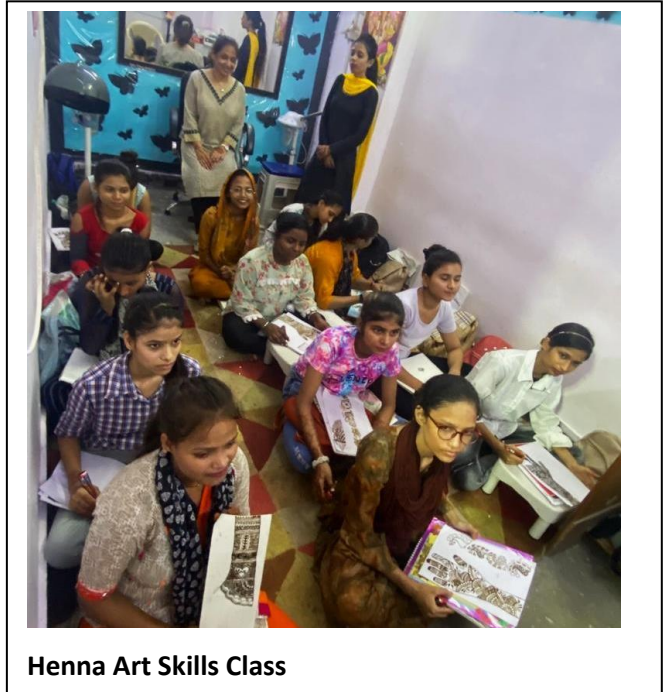
Tailoring Skills Class



Hair Dressing



Computer Skills Class



Henna Art Skills Class

In 2022, Ms. Smita Abbi, President of Vision Builders, visited both Kutumb and NIPUN to understand and assess the current status of the programs. Several people associated with Vision Builders also visited Kutumb (and NIPUN) including Bhanu Bahl, Tavish Bahl, Puneeta Kalra, and Sunny Srinivasan. Also visiting were Puneeta's daughter, Kaira, and Smita's children, Ahir and Suhani.



Bhanu & Tavish's visit at Kutumb



Puneeta & Kaira's visit at Kutumb



Smita Abbi visiting a Kutumb classroom



Smita Abbi visiting sewing class at NIPUN



Smita & Sunny's visit with Kutumb Leaders: Anshul, Puja and Dr. Ashish



Smita & Sunny's visit with NIPUN founder, Mr. Pradeep



Ahir & Suhani celebrating Rakhi with the Kutumb kids

Looking forward to 2023:

We hope you will continue to support Vision Builders as we have much to achieve in the coming year, including the start-up of the Clinic on Wheels endeavor.

We hope to reach many more in the impoverished communities through the efforts of Kutumb and NIPUN, who are working tirelessly at the grass-roots level to help these people.

***Thank you once again!
We wish everyone Happy Holidays!***

-Vision Builders Team