

**Mahesh
Foundation**

We Care for Uncared

Impact over the years



Mahesh Jadhav: A personality leading our programs from the front.

HIV/AIDS is all about prejudice, negative attitudes and abuse directed at people living with HIV and AIDS. Social responses of fear, denial, stigma and discrimination have accompanied the epidemic. Even I saw the little ones who haven't done any mistake had to suffer a lot of pain, stigma and discrimination. Accidentally, I met a child in the Government Hospital of Belagavi and he changed my life forever.

Despite being an entrepreneur by profession, I pride myself that I have dedicated to social service. I was born in Kanabargi village, Belgaum, on 22nd July 1986, and had a life of poverty. I completed my Primary education at Siddheshwar High School in Kanbargi, Belagavi. After completing computer science and engineering, I decided to start small occupations and contribute some of my earnings to society.

I found a 4-year-old boy who lost his parents due to HIV/AIDS and was on his deathbed. The Child's relatives and friends abandoned the child in the hospital. I took him to my home and within a few days, he recovered. This led to the birth of Mahesh Foundation in 2010 and within 2 years, more than 50 children were enrolled. Initially, Mahesh Foundation was started in my own house later moved to a rented house due to lack of space.

But that house was too small to care for the children. I struggled for 5 years to procure land from the government to build a care home but he didn't succeed. Then, I and my family decided to donate ancestral property as a charity to build a care home. Presently, I am living with my family in a rented house at Ramathirth Nagar Belgaum.

I had to face a lot of challenges since I started an orphanage for HIV-positive children. Schools opposed to admitting the children & people refused to give a house for rent. Also, neighbors forced us to vacate the house and relatives were less likely to come home. Dearest friends also left me in difficult conditions. The neighbors constantly complained and physically threatened us to move the care home from their neighborhood. Discrimination and non-acceptance of these children at school

Ashakiran Care Home



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| Program Name: | Ashakiran Care Home |
| Program location: | Kanabargi, Belagavi |
| Started : | July 2010 |
| Purpose : | To provide Shelter to HIV positive orphan Children |
| Beneficiaries: | HIV-positive Orphan Children |
| Project Status: | Ongoing Program |

Brief about the program:

We have been working for the past 13 years to empower society's most neglected HIV-infected children. Over the years, we have reached more than 2000 HIV-infected children to support their education, healthcare, and other basic needs that help them shape a bright future. All the children are either orphans or single parents and are abandoned by their relatives.



Our Challenges: _____

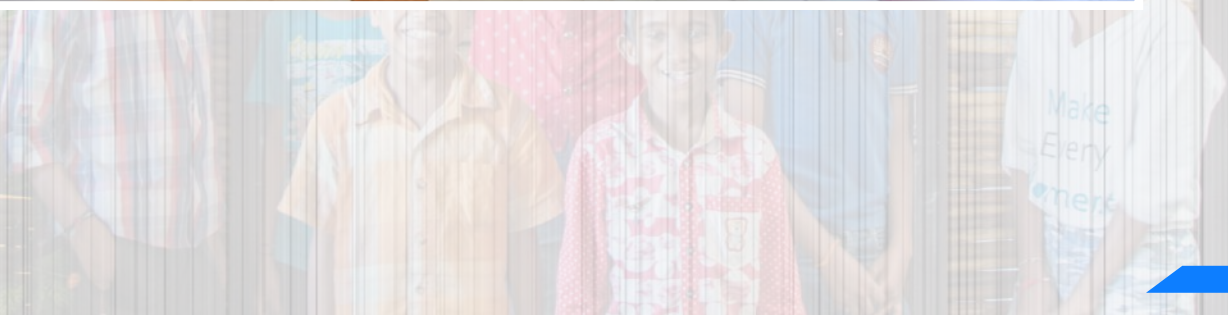
As you read this, thousands of HIV-positive children have lost their parents and been abandoned by their relatives. Many survive with substandard care, unloved and at health risk. Apart from this, they would also face stigma and discrimination for their HIV/AIDS status. But we are also in an attempt at a profound paradigm shift. Efforts are being made to bring change in the lives of HIV-positive children.

Our Solutions: _____

Mahesh Foundation has attempted to bridge this gap by initiating a program that is committed to providing treatment, nutrition, shelter, education and psychological support to the children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. Our Care Home program is aimed at medically challenged children who are affected and infected by HIV/AIDS. We provide comprehensive care to the children enrolled in our care home.

Impact: _____

One of our biggest achievements in these years is, we haven't lost a single child. Our Care Home has directly benefited over 800 girls and 1200 boys. Many children are leading healthy, independent and dignified life.



Utkarsha Learning Center



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| Program Name: | Utkarsha Learning Center |
| Program Location: | Kanabargi, Belagavi |
| Started : | July 2010 |
| Purpose : | To provide Shelter to HIV positive orphan Children |
| Beneficiaries: | HIV Positive and Slum Children |
| Project Status: | Ongoing Program |

Brief about the program:

Utkarsha Learning Center is a special school for underprivileged children where we prefer skill-based education along with formal education. HIV-positive children and underprivileged slum children are studying under the same roof. We have more than 100 children enrolled in the school. Our vision is to provide a conducive learning environment and a holistic school for medically challenged and underprivileged children.

Our Challenges:

All the children accessing the facility are first-generation learners. The challenges faced by these first-generation learners are very different from children coming from educated families. First-generation learners require lots more visual stimuli in the classroom as they get no form of encouragement or resources back at home. The biggest challenge for our children is developing language skills.

Our Solutions:

Utkarsha Learning Center run by Mahesh Foundation, right from its inception aims at empowering underprivileged children by providing free international grade education based on skill development. Utkarsha is presently catering for the education of over 75 children from grades 1 through 6. Utkarsha understands that every child has a learning preference and a learning style.

Impact:

Since its establishment, we were able to educate the parents of the dropout children and succeeded to bring them to the school. They are now regular children and top learners in the school. Many children completed their primary education and are enrolled to secondary to continue their education.



Aadhar Vidya Program



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| Program Name: | Aadhar Vidya Program |
| Program location: | Kanabargi, Belagavi |
| Started : | July 2012 |
| Purpose : | Education support to underprivileged slum children |
| Beneficiaries: | Slum Dwellers |
| Project Status: | Ongoing Program |

Brief about the program:

Doubtless, education is the most powerful catalyst for social transformation. But, there is enormous inequality in access to quality education in India, resulting in massive inequality of opportunity for children. Mahesh Foundation aims to make less privileged children self-reliant and lead a dignified life in the future. To date, Mahesh Foundation is externally supporting more than 20,000 children to get an education through the community program.



Our Challenges: _____

There are lakhs of children around us who lack support from their families to get an education and are dropping out of school. Education is available free of cost in the government schools but many children lack support to even get their school equipment. Children need support to cope with the competitive world to have a dignified life.

Our Solutions: _____

Maresh Foundation reaches government schools and provides school bags and school stationary to them as well as free skills-based and personality development education to the children. Under this initiative, Maresh Foundation also provides skills-based education to the children such as computer education, art, drama, sports and others. Many college students work as volunteers and impart their knowledge and skills to the children.

Impact: _____

To date we have reached more than 20000 underprivileged children providing education support to help them continue their education. Also, succeeded to bring awareness among their parents.





Aadhar Village Program



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| Program Name: | Aadhar Village Program |
| Program location: | Sagar Nagar Slum, Kanabargi, Belagavi |
| Started : | 2013 |
| Purpose : | To provide Shelter to HIV positive orphan Children |
| Beneficiaries: | To provide infrastructure facilities and sustainable energy sources to slum dwellers |
| Project Status: | Ongoing Program |

Brief about the program:

This program was started in the year of 2013. It operates in providing basic amenities for children and families in need. Providing them with free medical support, education and employment opportunities. There were a lot of children struggling to study at night because of no electricity. Under this initiative, Mahesh Foundation had provided electricity to these families.

Our Challenges: _____

Slum-dwellers in Sagar Nagar near Belagavi were lacking basic infrastructures like shelter, drinking water, sanitation and electricity as well as they also lacked healthcare facilities. There are 200 families, living in that slum. It was a big challenge for Mahesh Foundation to provide the infrastructure to them. Basically, these people earn their livelihood by selling scrap, manual labor or street hawking.

Our Solutions: _____

By identifying the root causes of healthcare challenges, Mahesh Foundation works at the individual, community and systemic levels to develop innovative solutions and help implement quality healthcare services. The Foundation has provided access to housing and solar lighting to those families. Mahesh Foundation has provided 24 hours of solar electricity supply that is helping the children in studies. Established a community center to provide healthcare facilities. Also, replaced their tents with smaller homes.

Impact: _____

In the two slums provided all the infrastructure facilities like shelter, solar energy, and drinking water. It is benefiting more than 850 people to date. Mahesh Foundation's interventions in the health sector work to improve access to quality health services for the poor and marginalized communities of these slums.





Aadhar Livelihood Program



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| Program Name: | Aadhar Livelihood Program |
| Program location: | Belagavi |
| Started : | 2014 |
| Purpose : | To provide livelihood opportunities to underprivileged women |
| Beneficiaries: | Slum and Underprivileged Women. |
| Project Status: | Ongoing Program |

Brief about the program: _____

Aadhar Livelihood Program is a livelihood program that supports slum dwellers and needy women. This program has supporting many such women and helping them to earn livelihood to support their families. Slum women who used to beg or other activities have been earning their livelihood through this program. As well as their children also getting an education in the Utkarsha school. Aadhar Livelihood Program was started 6 years ago and has since then supported over 1500 families



Our Challenges: _____

There are many challenges faced by the people dwelling in the economically weaker section of the society, such as discrimination, lack of opportunities, and ignorance throughout their life. Due to this they have not been able to acquire quality education and healthcare. They couldn't come to mainstream society as they lack necessary skills to earn livelihood. They are desperately in need of support to live an independent and dignified life.

Our Solutions: _____

Mahesh Foundation identifies underprivileged slum dweller women and trained them to manufacture varieties of bags and set up a manufacturing unit called Aadhar Livelihood Program. Also, provided a platform for them to sell their products. For the past 6 years, more than 1500 needy women are benefiting through this initiative.

Impact: _____

Mahesh Foundation has been imprinting the lives of many individuals through various programs, Through Aadhar Livelihood Program, we empowered the underprivileged women by teaching them to stitch, we have provided the sewing machines and now their products are more sought after by local companies, many local factories, institutes, organizations and Corporate companies. 1500+ women have been benefited.



Gokak Care & Support Center for HIV+ Patients



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| Program Name: | Gokak Care And Support Center |
| Program location: | Belagavi District |
| Started : | July 2014 |
| Purpose : | A care and support center for People Living with HIV in rural areas. |
| Beneficiaries: | People Living with HIV in rural areas. |
| Project Status: | Ongoing Program |

Brief about the program:

Gokak Care and Support Center, he has been supporting over 22000 People Living with HIV in rural areas. With a team of volunteers, he has been serving the healthcare facilities and government schemes at their doorstep. The primary focus of the program is to reach HIV positive men and women and provide them with access to healthcare and assistance to access various government programs.



Our Challenges: _____

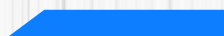
There are thousands of People Living with HIV in rural areas without a proper healthcare treatment and awareness of the fact that how dangerous HIV/AIDS could be for their future. They ignore medication and die because of this deadly disease. So, there is need of the hour to aware such people especially in rural areas and provide them much needed assistance.

Our Solutions: _____

In Gokak, we have established a Care and Support Center to provide necessary aid to the People Living with HIV. This program is designed to reach over 5,000 people per annum in the cities and town around Belagavi. To reach the healthcare services at the doorstep of People Living with HIV our outreach volunteers are tirelessly working in rural areas of Belagavi and neighboring districts.

Impact: _____

Gokak Care and Support Center has been supporting over 22000 People Living with HIV in rural areas. Outreach volunteers in Gokak Care and Support Center have distributed masks to the needy. To date, we have distributed over 1 lakh high-quality N-95 masks to People Living with HIV during COVID19.



HIV & Adolescents Awareness Program



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| Program Name: | HIV & Adolescents Awareness Program |
| Program location: | Belagavi |
| Started : | July 2010 |
| Purpose : | To create awareness in college and school children. |
| Beneficiaries: | Slum dwellers |
| Project Status: | Ongoing Program |

Brief about the program: _____

Adolescence is a critical link between childhood and adulthood, characterized by significant physical, psychological, and social transitions. It is necessary to educate adolescents about these transitions and has to convey the needed information through authentic sources. Hence, Mahesh Foundation started HIV/AIDS awareness and Adolescence Education programs. We visited more than 50 schools and interacted with thousands of adolescents to be aware of HIV and adolescent education.



Our Challenges: _____

Young people are vulnerable to HIV/AIDS due to their poor knowledge about sexual health. As adults do not talk to children about sexual matters. Along with this, they need awareness about sexual matters and the stages and physical and mental changes that occur in teenagers. There is no such education in the education system of India as well. Mahesh Foundation found it is the need of the hour to raise awareness about adolescent education and HIV/AIDS to prevent the spread of the epidemic..

Our Solutions: _____

Mahesh Foundation started the HIV/AIDS and Adolescents Education program and reached more than 10,000 teenagers who are studying at various schools. We have conveyed the human cycles and physical and mental changes that occur in human life. Also, about the deadly disease HIV/AIDS and its precautionary measures that are needed to be learned and understood by teenage children. There is a lot of discrimination happening against People Living with HIV. If we have to abolish such discrimination, raising awareness about HIV/AIDS among the children.

Impact: _____

Mahesh Foundation has reached around 10,000 schoolchildren and spread awareness about HIV/AIDS and given education about the adolescence period of human life.





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In the past 13 years, we have been reaching thousands of beneficiaries every year under various programs. It is all possible with help of many supporters and well-wishers. With the same energy and motivation, we aim to reach more beneficiaries.

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