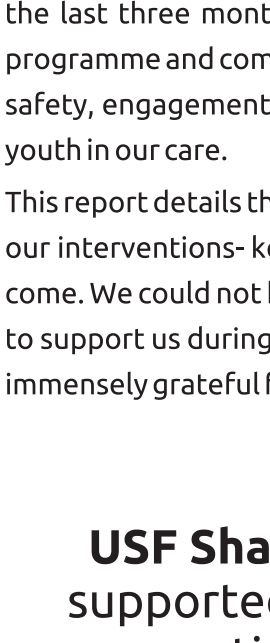


## Ensuring Care Wins over Corona

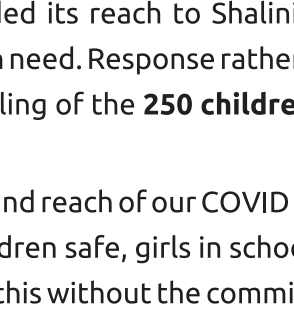


# Udayan Care COVID Response Report (Apr-May-Jun 2020)

### CONTENTS



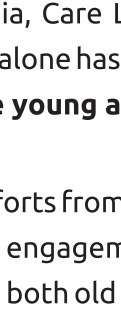
Emergency Response Fund



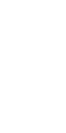
Safety and Mental Wellbeing



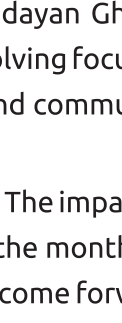
Giving Back  
The Udayan Care Value System



Engagement and Upskilling



Next Steps



Advocacy and Awareness



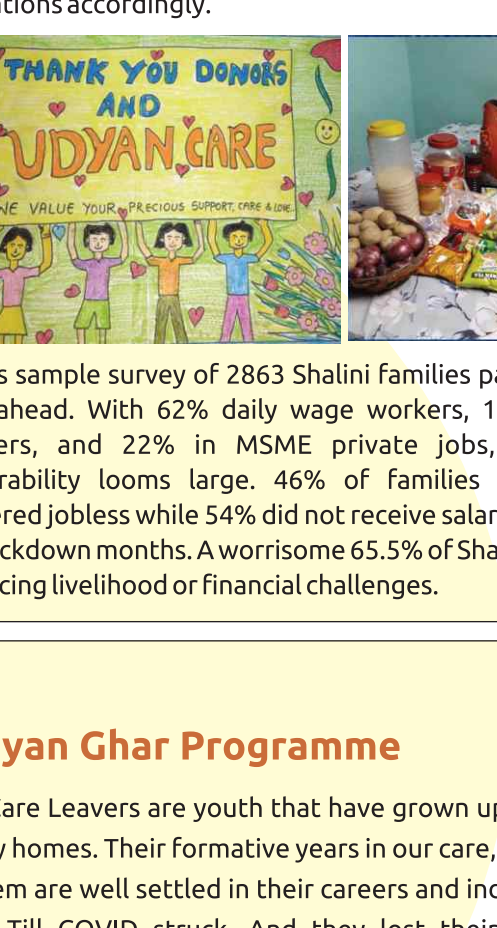
Gratitude

India has recently crossed the 100-day mark of the battle against COVID 19, a pandemic that has devastated lives and livelihoods across the globe. For Udayan Care, it began with a single phone call from Neha, a proud 1st generation learner, an Udayan Shalini Fellow\*. Her father was a juice seller in Bhayander, Maharashtra. He had lost his livelihood and his dignity.

The Udayan Care Emergency Response Fund was set up in early April to support hundreds, then over 1600 families and youth, devastated by the lockdown and its economic consequences. Begun as a relief measure by Udayan Care's committed volunteers outreach efforts in Mumbai, Thane and Chennai, the Fund has, over the last three months, expanded its reach to Shalinis across India, Care Leavers from the Udayan Ghar\*\* programme and communities in need. Response rather than Relief alone has meant a rapidly evolving focus on safety, engagement and upskilling of the 250 children, aftercare young adults, 4700 girls and community youth in our care.

This report details the journey and reach of our COVID response efforts from April to June 2020. The impact of our interventions- keeping children safe, girls in school and youth engagement will be told in the months to come. We could not have done this without the committed donors, both old and new, that have come forward to support us during this uncertain time. As we commit ourselves to protect, persevere and preserve, we are immensely grateful for the faith you have shown in us.

#### USF Shalinis' families supported with monthly ration supply



#### Cumulative Disbursement across all programmes (Rs. Lakhs)



\*Udayan Shalini Fellowships support underprivileged girls' higher education through monetary and mentoring support  
\*\*Udayan Ghars provide a loving home and family to children growing up without parental care

## Emergency Response Fund

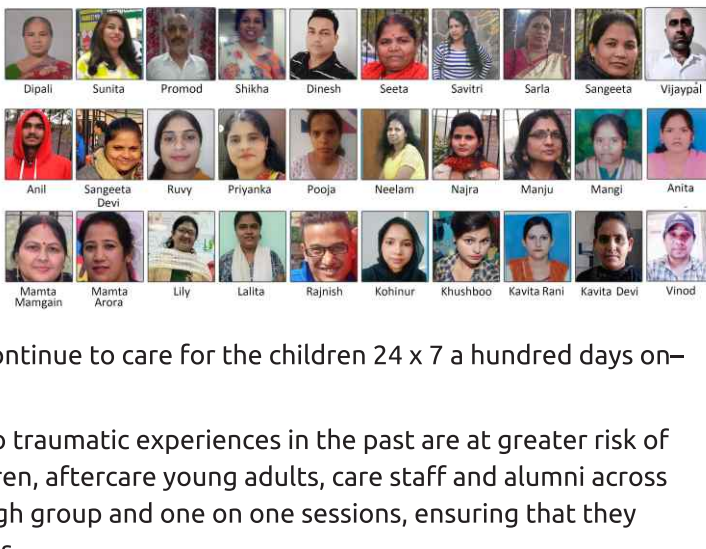
#### Udayan Shalini Fellowship Programme

To help the hundreds of Shalini families who are struggling to make ends meet, the Udayan Care Emergency Response Fund was set up in early April. With the help of an extensive volunteer network and a dedicated on-ground team, we have supported over 1600 families in need across 13 states with Take Home Rations, groceries and cash relief till June 30th. Collaborations with local government, police and an extensive volunteer network allowed for relief response within days of the lockdown.



Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.



Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

"I have ration for 10 days, give it to the girl whose family needs it more today if you have limited means to support. I can survive till then." - Udayan Shalini Fellow, Phagwara, Punjab

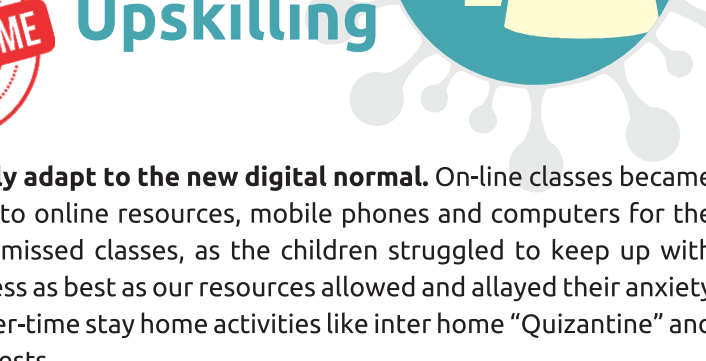
We adopted a Need-Based Target approach, contacting every Shalini across 13 states in 21 chapters. From a total of 4724 Shalinis, we arrived at an initial extreme vulnerability number of 812, to begin with. Constant contact saw this number balloon to 1615 families by June 30th. Extremely vulnerable families that had lost livelihoods or resided in containment zones were provided cash relief and rations multiple times. What stood out amongst this outreach effort was the spirit of our Shalinis that refused our help, urging us to support those in greater need.

Following an ongoing need assessment through structured surveys and telephonic interviews, we classified the need for support for the Shalinis into 3 groups - Urgent, Average and Low need and coordinated the distribution and relief operations accordingly.



June's sample survey of 2863 Shalini families paints a long haul ahead. With 62% daily wage workers, 16% factory workers, and 22% in MSME private jobs, economic vulnerability looms large. 46% of families have been rendered jobless while 54% did not receive salaries through the lockdown months. A worrisome 65.5% of Shalini families are facing livelihood or financial challenges.

Amphan, the devastating cyclone of the 20th of May was another catastrophe posed by nature and brought distress and insecurity for our Shalinis in the regions of eastern India.



12 Shalinis whose homes were damaged were supported with Rs. 15000 each to rebuild their homes and lives.

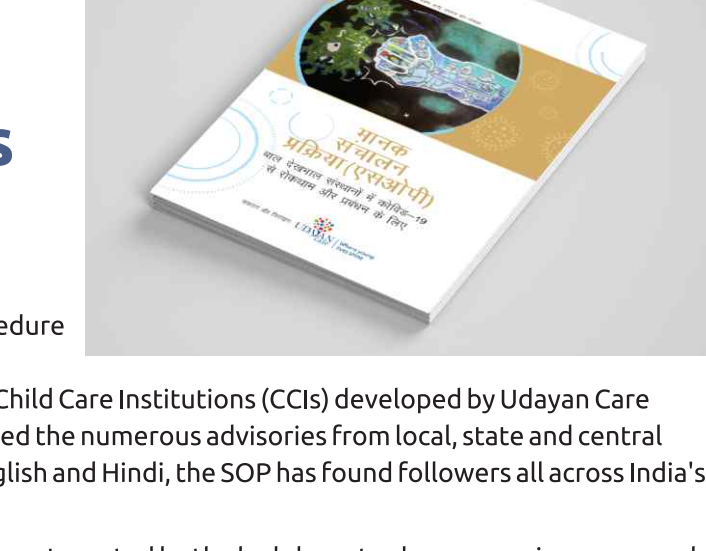
#### Udayan Ghar Programme

Our Care Leavers are youth that have grown up in our 17 family homes. Their formative years in our care, over 1000 of them are well settled in their careers and independent lives. Till COVID struck. And they lost their jobs and couldn't pay their rent and called home. 17 young adults have returned or taken ration support whilst sheltering in place. Once again, we realize, the fund was now supporting dignity and safe spaces to come home to.



Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

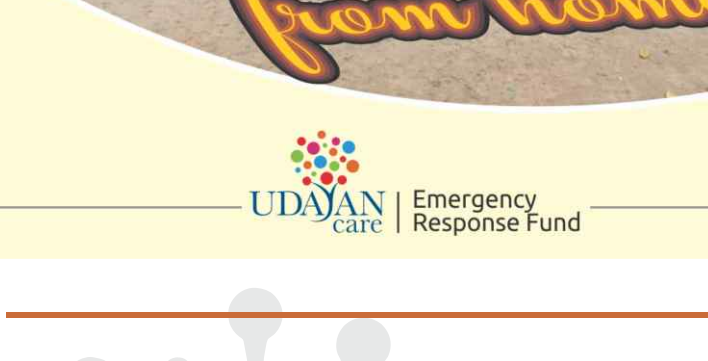


- An Udayan Ghar alumna

## Safety and Mental Wellbeing

The 250 children and youth across 17 Udayan Ghars (children's homes) and Aftercare programme have been kept safe, healthy and engaged during the lockdown. This was because of our line heroes, our Care Givers who continue to care for the children 24x7 a hundred days on - our very own Frontline Warriors.

Research has shown that people who have been exposed to traumatic experiences in the past are at greater risk of developing mental health concerns during crises. The children, aftercare young adults, care staff and alumni across homes have online access to our mental health team through group and one on one sessions, ensuring that they remain in a positive state of mind during these testing times.

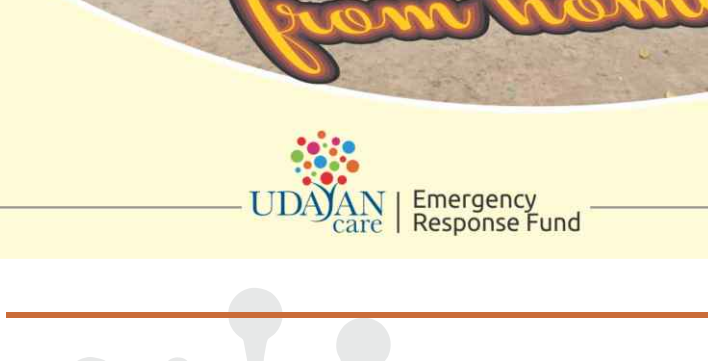


Yoga and Zumba classes are Zoomed in daily from our Skill Centre in Uttarakhand to all 17 homes, ensuring the physical and mental well-being of our children and staff.

Thousands of Shalinis were contacted and counselled to deal with the uncertainty and anxiety of their parents losing their livelihoods. 31 Parents Meets helped build trust with the families of the girls and parents were convinced to allow their girls access to mobile phones for workshops and mentoring. This period saw communities witness a sharp rise in cases of domestic violence. The Udayan Shalini Team conducted workshops across the country, sharing pathways and resources that girls could access in their time of need.

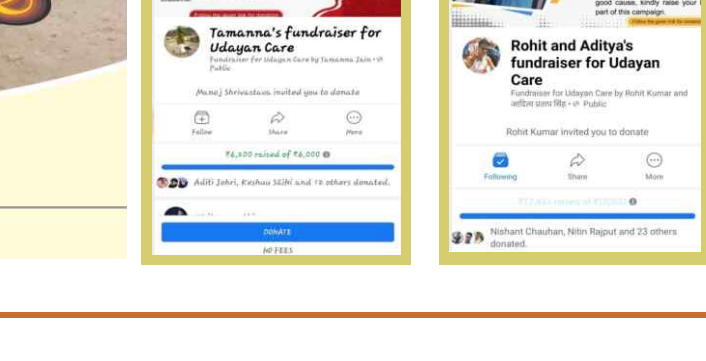
## Engagement and Upskilling

Virtually overnight, COVID 19 led the necessity to rapidly adopt the new digital normal. On-line classes became the norm and we scrambled to connect – ensuring access to online resources, mobile phones and computers for the children in the 17 homes. Too few computers, too many missed classes, as the children struggled to keep up with classwork, worried they were missing out. We provided access as best as our resources allowed and allayed their anxiety with summer-time stay home activities like inter home "Quizantine" and poster contests.



Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

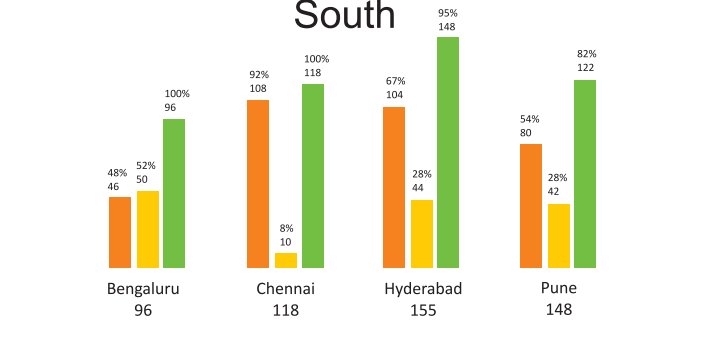
Whist only 10-15% of Shalinis had mobile phone access, their parents being home meant we could connect with them through their phones to continue their employability and life skills training, even extending the programme to their families.



Rations to dignity, safety to learning, the USF team and mentors, our corporate supporters Genpact, Deloitte, EY and TATA Pro Engage have volunteered hundreds of hours to help the girls adapt to digital tools and continue their exposure to issues as wide-ranging as financial literacy to design thinking to cyber safeguarding.



Udayan Care IT Centres cater to underprivileged youth in communities in and around the National Capital Region. Closed since the lockdown, we pivoted our professional skilling programmes to focus on employability and soft skills training that could be imparted on mobile phones. Less than 2% of these youth have access to computers at home.



Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

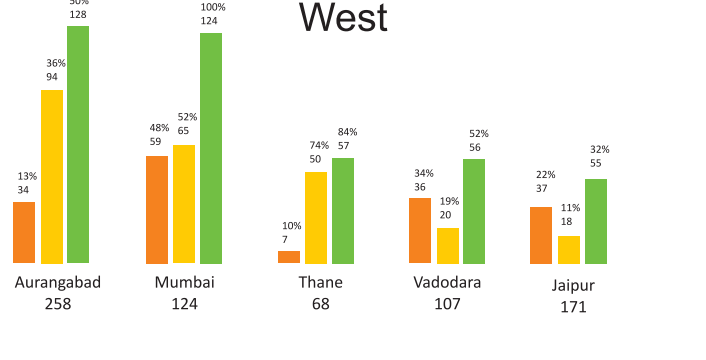
## Advocacy and Awareness

The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Prevention and Management of COVID-19 in Child Care Institutions (CCIs) developed by Udayan Care brought together and simplified the numerous advisories from local, state and central governments. Available in English and Hindi, the SOP has found followers across all India's child protection system.

We used the learning environment created by the lockdown to share our unique approach and strategies in working with children in care settings, through webinars, media and child protection publications.

A webinar on Responding to the Transnational Needs of Care Leavers amidst COVID-19 brought together over 100 young people with care experience from over 20 countries to a shared platform to discuss their anxieties, needs and aspirations.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.



Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

## Giving Back: The Udayan Care Value System

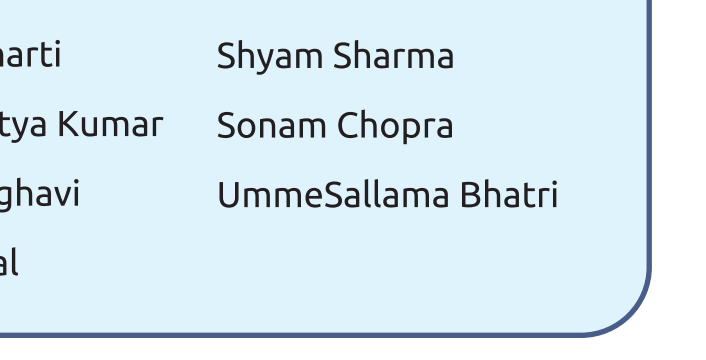
As help poured in from longtime supporters and we scrolled through spontaneous fundraisers on Facebook, we recognized our Information Technology centre alumni, our Shalini fellows, our Char alumni, our very own staff – it was them rising up to help their own. And we realized we were witnessing the "Giving Back" we taught every child, every youth from Udayan Care. They managed to raise considerable support through their fundraisers which were used to fuel the Emergency Response Fund.

Shalinis across the country are giving back – Neha's community kitchen feeds thousands, Archana's Connecting Lives cares for children in her community, Take Home Ration distribution drives provided food on the table, home stitched cloth masks spread safety where it was needed the most. Paying it forward has been alive and well during the pandemic.



Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.



Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.

Udayan Care extends a helping hand to its Shalini Fellows families with essential supplies support.