

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

Thanks to your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Lunkaransar. Learn more about the valuable ways your support has benefitted them.

This past year, more than 4,000 people improved their knowledge on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in their communities. And youth are taking on leadership roles to help others reduce diseases through healthy changes.

More girls are able to take charge of their bodies with dignity thanks to training on menstrual hygiene. 35 young women are now peer educators, reducing stigma and teaching girls how to use sanitary products so they can stay in school and reach their full potential.

We know the best is yet to come and your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Lunkaransar.



20

Community performances on harms of child marriage



164

Young women learnt about menstrual hygiene



58

Youth leaders trained on disease prevention



COVID-19'S IMPACT IN INDIA

Hear from Meenaskhi about how COVID-19 has impacted her community.

"I was afraid to take the COVID-19 vaccine because I thought I would get sick and die. Then Plan visited our community and shared information about the vaccine and the benefits. I decided to take the first dose and I was fine. I motivated my friends, and now I am fully vaccinated. Thank you Plan International."

CASE STORY: REACHING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE



NAME: TARANNUM

AGE: 12 YEARS OLD

HOBBY: READING



"I always wanted to go to a big school and do well for myself and my family, but my parents could not afford the fees and I didn't have the necessary identity papers. Plan International helped us get documents for admission, and now I am confident I can fulfil my dreams."

Meet Tarannum

Like your sponsored child, Tarannum has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. Tarannum has top marks in her grade, and she's excited about what the future holds for her. She and her three siblings are all enrolled at good schools and can access government programmes, thanks to their new identity cards.

I Am Here

Tarannum's parents moved to Delhi in search of work. Her father was the only earner, and it was hard for him to make ends meet.

Government supports for income and food existed, but the family didn't have the proper identity cards. The documents were also needed for admission into secondary school.

After joining Plan International's child sponsorship program, Tarannum learnt about the importance of having identity documents to claim her rights and access the supports she's entitled to.

Tarannum and her family now have their identity cards, and they can play an active role as full citizens in their community.

Family Support

COVID-19 has been hard on Tarannum. Her father lost his job, and it became a struggle to provide food for the family, even with government programmes.

While distributing face masks and hygiene kits to help keep children and families safe from the virus, Plan International also provided financial support. Through this support, Tarannum's parents were able to purchase nutritious food for her and her siblings.

Tarannum is dreaming big for her future, and her parents are giving her all the support she needs to reach her goals.



Tarannum on her way to school

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 1,694 CHILDREN IN LUNKARANSAR

OUR PROJECTS IN LUNKARANSAR NAME ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



INCLUSIVE EDUCATION



Children continued to learn even while schools were closed during the COVID-19 pandemic

Only 49% of girls remain in school for their senior years. School closures during the pandemic forced many children to drop out, and girls are at a greater risk of being forced into an early marriage and never returning to the classroom.

We are supporting school management committees to raise awareness on the importance of re-enrolling children. Schools are also creating more inspiring and inclusive learning spaces through new educational materials.

Children were also encouraged to attend online classes, and were involved in selecting books for their online programmes. And young people involved in community youth groups formed teaching circles for the younger children. These extra lessons helped youth retain their knowledge while also ensuring younger children gained the skills they need to return to school.

RESPONDING TO COVID-19



Many families in Lunkaransar struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents lost their jobs, and food and hygiene items became scarce. Misinformation around the virus and available vaccines also meant people lacked the knowledge they needed to keep themselves safe.

To help communities pull through, Plan International supported home visits and phone calls to families on COVID-19 symptoms and prevention measures. More than 4,300 families learnt about how to reduce the spread of the disease and the importance of vaccination, and they can now share this information with others.

And 1,536 families in need received food kits and hygiene supplies. Children and parents were able to protect themselves and stay healthy during the Omicron wave.



“The pandemic was really hard. Schools were closed and we couldn’t play with our friends. All the shops were closed too and we couldn’t buy things like books. Plan International helped provide items for us to continue to learn.”

- Kailash (16) from Lunkaransar

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



33%

of girls are not enrolled in school



42%

of girls do not use hygienic methods to manage menstruation



28%

of children are underweight



Your support helps girls and boys to stand up for their futures.

- School drop-out rates remain high in Lunkaransar. We will support children to return to school by offering extra classes and improving infrastructure like clean toilets.
- We will also increase access to vocational and entrepreneurship training so young women and men can get a good job or start their own business.
- Cases of child marriage increased during the pandemic. We will support communities as they strengthen child protection committees and raise awareness on girls' rights.
- Many children in rural areas do not get enough to eat. We will ensure pregnant women and new mothers have the knowledge they need to provide good nutrition to their children.

We know the best is yet to come, and together we will continue to work for a brighter, happier future for the children in Lunkaransar.



“Your continuous support in the past years has had a great impact on the lives of children and youth in our area through improved knowledge, and income. We sincerely thank you for your support which motivates us to keep reaching more people.”

Fateh Singh

Programme Area Manager, Lunkaransar

YOUR GENEROSITY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN STANDING UP FOR THEIR FUTURE AND RIGHTS