

Magic Bus Report - Create 4000 high school graduates in India April 24, 2017

Overall project goal, funding raised and services provided - Magic Bus project "Create 4000 high school graduates in India" proposed to work with girls living in poverty in India through a unique mixed-gender mentoring program designed and proven to educate and empower girls to make effective choices in the areas of health, gender and livelihoods. *Magic Bus was successful in raising \$8,217 towards the above-mentioned project. This funding has been used to provide "Sports for Development" sessions to a total of 328 children. Every child benefited from 40 sessions each.*





"Sports for Development" S4D sessions: A typical Magic Bus session lasts for 2 hours and is held in an open and safe space in the community or close to it. Each session consists of two main sections - 1) an ice breaker and playing an actual sporting game, and 2) the sit down reflective and discussion session. The latter is used to provide specific development related messages that children can apply directly to their lives and discussions are used to engage children on topics/challenges that they may be facing in their daily lives and how to overcome those challenges.

Key Messages: Magic Bus S4D sessions provide an effective vehicle for mentoring and motivating children from marginalized communities by incorporating key messages relating to: **Education** - attending school regularly, and keeping up with school work despite the challenges faced by low-income children

Gender - Generating awareness of issues relating to gender equity and rights **Livelihood** - Developing crucial life and work skills that are necessary for a stable job

Magic Bus Goals and Activities:

- 50% of children in India, ages 14-16, are not in school. Hence Magic Bus starts working with children at age 12 (because of high dropout rates) and continues to age 18+
- Our goal for children in our school program is that they should graduate Grade 10/12 with high learning outcomes and that every youth in our Livelihoods Program should have a stable job in the formal sector
- For the ages 12 to 18 years, Magic Bus provides life skills (teamwork, problem solving, gender sensitivity, learning to learn and self-management) and work readiness skills (digital and financial literacy, and functional English)
- For youth who have graduated school, Magic Bus provides assistance in transitioning from school to a stable livelihood/job by providing training at a Magic Bus Livelihoods Center and includes counselling, CV writing, interview skills, core employability skills, vocational training, job placement and job retention support.
- Gender is a cross cutting theme at Magic Bus and we ensure that all girls have equitable
 access to education and employment, and that none of the girls in Magic Bus programs
 get married under the legal age. We include both boys and girls in the conversation to
 address gender inequity.

Reporting:

Magic Bus has incorporated rigorous management and reporting systems and to measure the effectiveness and impact of our programs. Our monitoring and evaluation team is led by a senior level staff and based in our headquarters in Mumbai.

Key Magic Bus Impacts:

Overall Achievements

- 400,000 children and youth attend Magic Bus programs every week
- 9,000 trained volunteers
- 780 schools
- 35 Livelihood Centers across India for Employment training and job placement
- 1,500 staff
- Presence in 22 states

Education and Gender Impacts

- 49% of program participants are girls
- Secondary school participation – 99% of girls from Magic Bus are in Secondary School as compared to 48% at national level
- Almost all Magic Bus children complete school all the way up to Grade 12, while nationally 50% drop out by Grade 10

Employment and Gender Impacts

- Youth in salaried jobs in India are only 18% while 96% of Magic Bus youth are in salaried jobs (ages 18 – 29)
- 49% of all youth enrolled in our livelihoods programs are girls and 43% of those placed in jobs are girls